

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 342 897

CE 060 420

TITLE Workplace Concepts in Sign and Text. A Computerized Sign Language Dictionary.

INSTITUTION Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Pittsburgh.

SPONS AGENCY Pennsylvania State Dept. of Education, Harrisburg. Div. of Adult Basic and Literacy Education Programs.

PUB DATE 91

NOTE 500p.; The hardware and software requirements are: a Macintosh Computer with ability to read a high density floppy disk and a version of Hypercard that is either the 2.0 or subsequent version. For a related report, see CE 060 419.

AVAILABLE FROM AdvanceE, Pennsylvania Department of Education, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333 (report, dictionary, and Macintosh diskette).

PUB TYPE Reference Materials -
Vocabularies/Classifications/Dictionaries (134)

EDRS PRICE MF02/PC20 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS Accessibility (for Disabled); *Adult Basic Education; *Adult Literacy; Computer Uses in Education; Daily Living Skills; *Database Design; Database Management Systems; *Databases; *Deaf Interpreting; *Deafness; Literacy Education; Microcomputers; Sign Language; Teaching Methods

IDENTIFIERS 353 Project; *Workplace Literacy

ABSTRACT

This document is a dictionary of essential vocabulary, signs, and illustrations of workplace activities to be used to train deaf or hearing-impaired adults. It contains more than 500 entries with workplace-relevant vocabulary, each including an illustration of the signed word or phrase in American Sign Language, a description of how to make the sign, a definition of the word or phrase, a series of work-related sentences using the word/phrase, and an illustration demonstrating the meaning of words that can be pictured. The entries are divided into 28 topic areas: pronouns; size/shape/quantity; health/hospital; common signs; on the job; interview/forms; safety/survival; bank/money; supermarket; time/schedule; computers; directions/reinforcement; family relationships; questions; fruits/vegetables; mail room; people; fast food/restaurant; around the house; desserts/snacks; adult day care; drinks; colors; containers/utensils; police; holidays; feelings; and common phrases. Directions for using a Macintosh computer disk to access the dictionary or make printouts are included. (KC)

* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *

ED342897

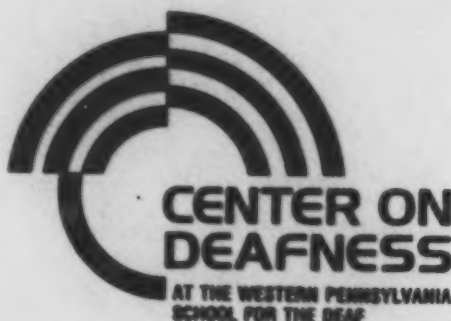
WORKPLACE CONCEPTS IN SIGN AND TEXT

A Computerized Sign Language Dictionary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

- ☒ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
- ☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

- Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.



"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS
MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

J. Christopher

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

Disk and Instructions for Use Included in Notebook Pocket

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

CE 060421

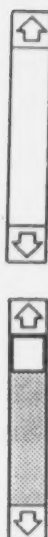
The hardware and software requirements for the *Sign Language Dictionary, Workforce Concepts in Sign and Text* (version 1.0) are:

Hardware Requirements: a Macintosh Computer with the ability to read from a high density floppy disk.

Software Requirements: a version of Hypercard that is either the 2.0 or subsequent version.

In order to successfully use the *Sign Language Dictionary*, you need to be able to perform two functions, "**Clicking On**" and "**Scrolling**".

Clicking On: **Clicking On** refers to activating the action of an area of the screen, usually a button. To do this, you need to position the Mouse so that the arrow cursor points to the area of the screen or to the button you want to activate. Then, press down the button on the Mouse one time. **Double Clicking** refers to pressing the Mouse button twice. Turn on your machine and insert the *Sign Language Dictionary* disk. A picture of the disk named *Project 353* will appear on the right hand side of your screen. Point to the disk with the *arrow cursor*, and then double click on the disk. A window will appear with a picture of a disk named *Sign Language Dictionary*. Double click on it. You have now entered the dictionary. To "turn" the title page of the dictionary, double click again. The first word of the dictionary "a few" will be on your screen.



Scrolling: Because the Macintosh screen provides a limited amount of space for display, all the information in a Definition, Description, Sample Sentences, or Topic Window is often not able fit in its designated area of a dictionary page. The right hand edge of each window is a **Scroll Bar**. It has an **up-arrow** at the top and a **down-arrow** at the bottom. Point to the down-arrow of the Definition **Scroll Bar** of the word "a few" which should now be on your screen and click it on. Notice that the rest of the definition appears as the Definition Window scrolls down. Now, try clicking on the up-arrow of the Scroll Bar. The window scrolls up. If the bar between the arrows is gray, then there is information in that window which must be scrolled in order to be viewed. If, on the other hand, the area between the arrows is white, all the information in that window is visible on the screen.

Buttons:

Each dictionary card is designed so that five buttons appear in the right hand corner of the screen. Placing the cursor on a button and "clicking it on" initiates a dictionary function. The buttons are: Pick Topic, Find Word, Right Arrow, Left Arrow, and Quit.



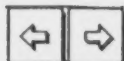
Pick Topic Button - Clicking on the **Pick Topic Button** brings the Topic Menu to the screen. This menu contains the topics by which the Sign Language Dictionary can be viewed or printed. Notice that *All Signs (no topic)* is highlighted. Unless otherwise specified, the Sign Language Dictionary is set to view in its entirety and not by topic. To view by topic, you must select the Topic Menu by clicking on the **Pick Topic Button**. The other topics in the menu are:

Adult Day Care	Fruits/Vegetables
Alphabet	Health Hospital
Around the House	Holidays
Bank/Money	Interview/Forms
Colors	Mail Room
Common Phrases	Numbers
Common Signs	On the Job
Computers	People
Containers/Utensils	Police
Desserts/Snacks	Pronouns
Directions/Reinforcement	Questions
Drinks	Safety/Survival
Family	Shape/Size/Quantity
Fast Food/Restaurants	Supermarket
Feelings	Time/Schedule

Next, place the arrow on the topic you wish to view and click on that topic. For example, select the topic *Computers*. The topic *Computers* will be highlighted. Now, click on the **OK Button**. The word "again" will appear on the screen because it is the first word in the topic *Computers*. Browsing through *Computers* with the **Right Arrow Button** will take you alphabetically through the topic. Click on the **Pick Topic Button** again. This time, select the last topic on the menu, *Time / Schedule*, by scrolling down to it and then selecting it. Click on the **OK Button**. The first word in that topic, "afternoon", will appear on the screen. If you have accidentally clicked on the Topic Menu, you can get out by clicking on the **Cancel Button**.



Find Word Button - Click on the **Find Word Button**. A window will appear on the screen asking, "What word do you want to find?". In the space provided, type in the word you are searching. For example, try typing in the word "egg" and then click on the **OK Button**. The word "egg" will appear on the screen. Now, click on the **Find Word Button** and type in your name. Since your name is not in the dictionary, you can either click on the **Try Again Button** or the **Give Up Button**. Trying again allows you to try to find another word. Giving up returns you to the last word you found. If you click on the **Find Word Button** by accident, you can exit it by clicking on the **Cancel Button**.



Right and Left Arrow Buttons - The **Right Arrow Button** takes you alphabetically *forward* through a topic. Clicking on the right arrow takes you to the next page in a topic. The **Left Arrow Button** takes you alphabetically *backward* through a topic. Clicking on the left arrow takes you to the previous page in a topic. **NOTE:** The word that will appear as the next or previous word will depend on the topic you are viewing. For example, select the topic *Bank / Money* from the Pick Topic Menu. Then, find the word "money". Now, click on the **Right Arrow Button**. The word "owe" appears because it is the next word in that topic after "money". Go back to the Pick Topic Menu and select *All Signs (no topic)*. Find the word "money" again. Now, click on the **Right Arrow Button**. The word "month" appears because it is the next word in the dictionary after "money".



Reports Button- The *Sign Language Dictionary* has the capacity to provide printed copies of its pages. There are three types of reports that can be printed, a Single Word Report, Topic Report, or Whole Dictionary Report.

- **Single Word Report:** Information from a page of the *Sign Language Dictionary* can be printed by: (1) Selecting the word to be printed by clicking on the Find Word Button, (2) Clicking on the **Reports Button**, (3) Clicking on the **This Sign Button**, and (4) Clicking on the **Print Button** in the Reports Menu.
- **Topic Report:** Information from a topic of the *Sign Language Dictionary* can be printed by: (1) Selecting the topic to be printed by clicking on the Pick Topic Button and highlighting a topic, (2) Clicking on the **Reports Button**, (3) Clicking on the **All Signs Button**, and (4) Clicking on the **Print Button** in the Reports Menu.

- **Whole Dictionary Report**- Information from all of the pages of the *Sign Language Dictionary* can be printed by: (1) Clicking on the **Reports Button**, (2) Clicking on the **All Signs Button**, and (3) Clicking on the **Print Button** in the Reports Menu.

Try printing a single word report with the word "Computer". First, find the word "Computer" by clicking on the Find Word Button and selecting the word "Computer". Now, click on the **Reports Button**. The **Reports Menu** will appear on your screen like this:

Select the Items to be printed: ☒ Word ☐ Sign ☐ Picture ☐ Same Sign for ☐ Description ☐ Definition ☐ Sample Sentences ☐ Topics ☐ All	Select the Signs to be printed: ☒ This Sign: <u>Computer</u> ☐ All Signs
--	--

Notice that the word "Computer" is in the space designated after *This Sign*. The word that is on the screen at the time you click on the **Reports Button** will always appear in this space. Also, notice that there is a black dot centered in the **This Sign Button**. The black dot means that this is the option that has been selected. You choose the print option you want by clicking on the button of your choice. To print a single word like "computer" you select the **This Sign Button**. The left hand side of the **Reports Menu** allows you to print the word you have chosen with any combination of sign and picture, description, definition, and sample sentences possible (NOTE: the Word option will always be selected and cannot be clicked off). To print the word with all these options, click on the **ALL Button**. Try printing the word "computer" with its definition and sample sentences. Select Definition and Sample Sentences by clicking on their respective buttons. Then click on the **Print Button** at the top of the screen.

Now, try printing a topic report using the topic "Computers". First, exit the Print Report Screen by clicking on the **Cancel Button** at the top of the screen. Click on the Pick Topic Button and highlight the topic "Computers". Next, click on the **Reports Button**. Notice that the Reports

Menu includes another print option in the Select the Signs Window. The Reports Menu will appear on the screen like this with the additional **All Signs in Topic Button**:

Print Cancel

Select the Items to be printed:

☒ Word

☐ Sign

☐ Picture

☐ Same Sign for

☐ Description

☐ Definition

☐ Sample Sentences

☐ Topics

☐ All

Select the Signs to be printed:

☐ This Sign: Again

☒ All Signs in Topic: Computers

☐ All Signs

Notice that the topic you selected, Computers, automatically appears in the space designated after *All Signs in Topic*. The last topic to have been selected at the time you click on the **Reports Button** will always appear in this space. Also notice that the word "Again" is in the space designated after *This Sign*. The first word in the chosen topic will automatically appear here. Click on the **All Signs Button**. The black dot that appears in the center of the button after it is clicked indicates that you have selected this print option. From the right side of the menu, select the information that you want to be printed with each word. Then, click on the **Print Button** at the top of the screen. The following window will appear on your screen:

About to print the Signs in the Topic. Please select "• MARKED CARDS" on the next screen.

Cancel Okay

This window tells you that next, you have to click on the **Marked Cards Button**. You must click on the **Okay Button** to print an entire topic. NOTE: Clicking on the **Cancel Button** will take you to the previous

screen. Along with some printer specifications, the next screen that appears will have two buttons in the upper right hand corner. One will say **All Cards**. The other will say **Marked Cards**. Click on the **Marked Cards Button**, and then click on the **Print Button**. Next, a window with a darkened **Copies Button** will appear on the screen. This button is set to print one copy of each page. If you want to print more than one copy, click on the **Copies Button**. A flashing cursor will appear after the number one. Press the **delete key** on the keyboard and type in the number of copies of each page you want. Then, click on the **OK Button** in the upper right hand corner of the window.

Printing the entire dictionary is a time consuming process of about three hours. Therefore, we won't try it now. To print the entire *Sign Language Dictionary*, click on the **Reports Button**. It does not matter what word is in the space designated after *This Sign*. Click on the **All Signs Button**. Then, select the information you want to be printed with each word from the right hand side of the Reports Menu, and click on the **Print Button**. The rest of the printing process follows like the printing of a topic.

Quit

Quit Button- Always click on the **Quit Button** to exit the Sign Language Dictionary. **Turning off your machine without properly exiting the dictionary may result in disk errors.**

As is common with the first release of any software, it is possible that version 1.0 of the *Sign Language Dictionary* is not completely error free. We welcome your comments regarding errors you may find in either the software, or the user's manual. We also encourage other suggestions you may have. Please direct all remarks to:

Patty Karn, Computer Specialist
Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf
300 Swissvale Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15218
1-800-624-3323

✱

A Few



Same Sign for: Several

Description: Starting with an "A" hand, palm up, smoothly and quickly uncurl each finger, starting with the index finger, moving the thumb in toward the palm.

Hints/Origin: The fingers are counting out a few things.

Definition: (pronoun) not many: (adjective) not many

Sample Sentences:

- I don't want a lot. Give me a few.
- Do you have some quarters? I need a few for the parking meter.
- After dinner, a few people had coffee.

Pronouns, Size/Shape/Quantity

✱

A Lot



Same Sign for: Much, Lots

Description: Hold both hands in front of chest, palms facing each other, with fingers slightly bent. Draw hands apart.

Hints/Origin: Hands apart denote a great/expanding amount

Definition: (adjective) (adverb) much

Sample Sentences:

- A lot of people have their own computers.
- I have a lot of baseball cards in my collection.
- I feel a lot better.
- I will miss you a lot when you leave.

Size /Shape/Quantity

✱

Abortion



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the right "A" hand, palm left, on the left "5" hand, fingers pointing forward, palm facing right. Move right hand to the "5" handshape, palm down, as if grabbing something out of the left hand and throwing it away.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a birth that happens before a baby is old enough to live

Sample Sentences:

- The group was against the new abortion law.
- The governor signed a new law about abortion.
- Some people believe in abortion. Some do not.
- The young girl was pregnant, but she had an abortion.

Health/Hospital

✱

Absent



Same Sign for: Gone

Description: The right "5" hand, palm up, becomes a closed "AND" as it is drawn down through the left "C".

Hints/Origin: Something that was in one hand is now gone.

Definition: (adjective) missing; not present; not here; not there

Sample Sentences:

- Pam was absent because she was sick.
- Many employees were absent because of the snow storm.
- The file clerk was absent for two weeks.
- We need another file clerk while Mary is absent.

Common Signs, On the Job

*

Accept



Same Sign for: Receive

Description: Bring both bent "5" hands from in front of the chest, palms facing down, inward, bringing the thumbs and fingertips together against the chest.

Hints/Origin: Taking something and bringing it to oneself in acceptance.

Definition: (verb) to take; to agree

Sample Sentences:

- If you hire me, I will accept the job.
- He accepted the promotion to store manager.
- Everyone accepted his suggestions.

Interview/Forms, On the Job

* Accident



Same Sign for:

Description: Move both curved "5" hands, palms toward body, from in front of the shoulders toward each other, closing into "S" hands and making contact in front of chest.

Hints/Oringin: Two objects running into each other.

Definition: (noun) something that happens and causes harm

Sample Sentences:

- She broke her glasses in the accident.
- He was in a car accident on the way to work.
- Accidents can be avoided if you are careful.

Health/Hospital, Safety/Survival

✱

Account



Same Sign for:

Description: Run the fingertips of the index finger and thumb of the right "F" hand forward down the middle of the left upturned palm, fingers pointing forward.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a statement of money spent and received, a record of customer purchases

Sample Sentences:

- Your account is paid up.
- According to your account, you owe \$50.00.
- I put money in a savings account every month.

Bank/Money, Supermarket

✱

Add



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with the right open "5" hand, palm facing outward, above the right shoulder and left open "5" hand, palm facing up, at wrist level. Bring fingertips of both hands together, each in a bent and closed "5" position, at chest level, as if adding two things together.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to find the sum of

Sample Sentences:

- Add up the checks and write the total on the deposit slip.
- Add tax to the cost of the car.
- If you add 5 and 5, you get 10.

Bank/Money



Address



Same Sign for:

Description: With both "A" hands, thumbs pointing up, pass up the middle of the body, from the waist to the chest. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the number of a house, name of a street and town where someone lives; the number, street, town and zip for a business or work place

Sample Sentences:

- You will need to write your address on the job application.
- Don't forget to put your address on the envelope.
- You should memorize your new address.
- Where do you work? What is your address there?

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

* Afternoon



Same Sign for:

Description: With the fingers of the open downturned left hand under the elbow of the extended downturned right arm, lower the right palm slightly with a double motion.

Hints/Origin: Shows the movement of the sun going down toward the horizon in the afternoon.

Definition: (noun) the part of the day between noon and evening

Sample Sentences:

- The afternoon mail is delivered at 3:00 P.M.
- We have a meeting at 1:00 this afternoon.
- I heard the news this afternoon after lunch.

Common Signs, Time/Schedule

✱

Again



Same Sign for: Repeat

Description: Flip the upturned bent right hand over, ending with the right fingertips on the upturned left palm, fingers pointing forward.

Hints/Origin: Right hand indicates repetition.

Definition: (adverb) another time; once more

Sample Sentences:

- Please say that again. (I didn't understand the first time.)
- Don't do that again.
- The copier is broken again.
- It's time for inventory again.

Common Signs, Computers, Directions/Reinforcement, On the Job

✱

Alarm



Same Sign for:

Description: Quickly tap the side of the index finger of the right "1" hand against the palm of the left open hand, palm forward. Repeat sign two times.

Hints/Origin: Represents the alarm hammer hitting the alarm disk.

Definition: (noun) a warning of danger

Sample Sentences:

- Everyone left the office when the fire alarm rang.
- The burglar alarm went off when the bank was robbed.
- I set my car alarm when I park for work.

Safety/Survival

* All Night



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the fingertips of the left hand in the crook of the right bent arm. Bring the right arm, palm down in an arc from in front of body toward the body under the left arm.

Hints/Origin: Shows the movement of the sun through the entire night time cycle.

Definition: (adverb phrase) when it is dark; a period of time from sunset to sunrise

Sample Sentences:

- The repairman worked all night to fix the telephone lines.
- I was up all night worrying about my new job.
- It takes the cleaning lady all night to clean the office.

Time/Schedule

✱

Always



Same Sign for: Ever, Constantly

Description: Move index finger, palm facing up, in a clockwise circle.

Hints/Origin: A circle is neverending.

Definition: (adverb) every time; all the time

Sample Sentences:

- Thanksgiving is always the fourth Thursday in November.
- I always brush my teeth after I eat.
- We always go on vacation in July.

Size/Shape/Quantity

* Ancestors



Same Sign for: Descendents, Generations

Description: Move the right and left open hands over each other backward two times from in front of the right shoulder and ending behind it.

Hints/Origin: "Born" sign repeatedly as generations pass.

Definition: (noun) forefathers; people (to whom we are related) who lived many years ago, before one's grandparents

Sample Sentences:

- My mother's ancestors lived in Germany.
- I am a carpenter, like most of my ancestors.
- My ancestors fought in the Civil War.

Family Relationships

*

Answer



Same Sign for: Respond, Reply

Description: Begin with the right extended index finger, palm left, in front of the lips and left index finger somewhat lower and forward. Bring both fingers down and forward.

Hints/Origin: Words coming straight out of the mouth in reply.

Definition: (verb) to reply; to respond to a question: (noun) words spoken or written when someone has asked a question

Sample Sentences:

- You will answer many questions during the interview.
- I have not received an answer to my letter.
- Does that answer your question?

Common Signs, Directions/Reinforcement, Questions

✧

Appear



Same Sign for: Show up

Description: Bring the right extended index finger, palm facing out, upward between the index and middle fingers of the downturned open left hand.

Hints/Origin: Pop out of nowhere.

Definition: (verb) to be seen

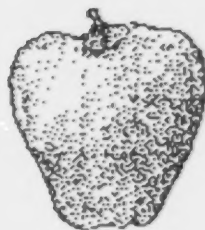
Sample Sentences:

- She appeared at the meeting.
- The first customer appeared at opening time.
- She appears in TV commercials.

Time/Schedule



Apple



Same Sign for:

Description: With the knuckles of the tightly curled index finger on the right cheek, palm out, twist forward twice.

Hints/Origin: Chewing an apple in the cheek.

Definition: (noun) a round red, green, and yellow fruit that grows on a tree

Sample Sentences:

- We made an apple pie.
- I like red apples better than yellow apples.
- I had apple juice and doughnuts at the party.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

* Application



Same Sign for:

Description: Hit the palm side of the index and middle fingers of the right "H" hand on the upturned left palm, two times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a written request for a job, for credit, for membership in an organization, or for admission to a school or college

Sample Sentences:

- You must fill out a job application to work here.
- Your master card application is approved.
- Type or print your application.

Interview/Forms

* Appointment



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with the right "A" hand, above the left downturned "A" hand. Twist the right wrist backward and land the inner wrist of the right "A" hand on the back of the left wrist.

Definition: (noun) a time for a meeting; a plan for people to meet

Sample Sentences:

- I have an appointment to see Dr. Smith.
- Let's make an appointment to meet for lunch.
- My appointment with the dentist is at 3:00.
- The appointment was made three weeks ago.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

✱

Area



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "A" shape in front of chest, palms down, thumbs almost touching, circle hands out and around toward body, ending with thumbs touching.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a place; a space or region; a measure of surface amount

Sample Sentences:

- This area is for non-smokers.
- The heavy machinery is in another area.
- The employees need an area for a lounge.
- The lot has an area of 100 square feet.

Mail Room

✱

Arrive



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the right open hand, palm left and fingers pointing up, from in front of the right shoulder forward, landing the back of the right hand in the palm of the left hand, both palms toward chest.

Hints/Origin: The right hand represents something coming and arriving in the left hand.

Definition: (verb) to come to a place

Sample Sentences:

- The mail arrived on time.
- His plane arrived a half hour late.
- We are waiting for Mr. Perkins to arrive.

Time/Schedule

✱

Ask



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the open hands apart in front of the chest, palms facing each other and fingers pointing out. Bring the palms together as hands move toward body. End with fingers pointing up.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to put a question to someone; to seek the answer to; to inquire

Sample Sentences:

- She asked about health insurance coverage.
- Ask for help if you need it.
- I asked the supervisor if I could leave early.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, On the Job, Questions

*

Aunt



Same Sign for:

Description: With "A" hand, make a small circular movement near the right jaw.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign in female position.

Definition: (noun) the sister of one's father or mother

Sample Sentences:

- My mother and my aunt started a family business.
- My aunt looks like my grandfather.
- My Aunt Lucy is my mother's sister.

Family Relationships, People

✱

Awful



Same Sign for: Terrible, Horrible

Description: Flick the bent middle finger of both "5" hands off the thumbs near either temple, palms forward.

Hints/Origin: Flicking something terrible away from the mind.

Definition: (adjective) very bad; terrible

Sample Sentences:

- I cannot read this. Your handwriting is awful.
- My dinner was awful.
- The movie was awful.

Directions/Reinforcement

✱

Back



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch your own back, just over your right shoulder with right hand, palm facing the back.

Definition: (noun) the part of the body which is behind you (opposite the front of the body)

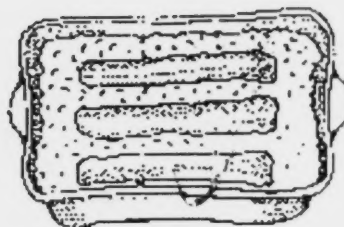
Sample Sentences:

- I sleep on my stomach, not on my back.
- She carried her book bag on her back.
- He hurt his back in the accident.

Health/Hospital

✱

Bacon



Same Sign for:

Description: Starting with the "H" fingertips touching each other, palms down, separate hands while wiggling the "H's" up and down.

Hints/Origin: Follows the shape of frying bacon.

Definition: (noun) salted and smoked meat from a pig (pork)

Sample Sentences:

- I want bacon and eggs.
- I like bacon burgers.
- I want three slices of bacon.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Bad



Same Sign for: Unfortunate

Description: Starting with the fingertips of the open hand on the lips, turn wrist and move hand away down from the mouth.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) not good; not friendly; naughty; not behaving

Sample Sentences:

- This video tape is bad, so I will return it to the store.
- He called off work because of bad weather.
- The little boy had to sit in the chair because he was bad.
- Business is bad now, because no one is buying new cars.

Common Signs, Directions/Reinforcement, On the Job

✱

Bake



Same Sign for: Oven

Description: Move the right upturned "B" hand forward and upward slightly several inches below the downturned left hand.

Hints/Origin: Putting something in the oven.

Definition: (verb) to cook in the oven

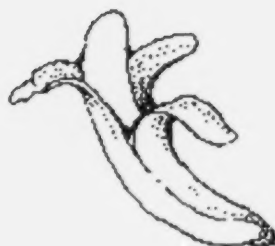
Sample Sentences:

- He baked a cake in the oven
- Turn on the oven before you bake.
- The cook bakes bread every morning.

Around the House, Desserts/Snacks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Banana



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the closed fingertips of the right hand, palm facing outward, down the extended left index finger, palm facing right.

Hints/Origin: Mime peeling a banana

Definition: (noun) a long fruit with thick yellow skin

Sample Sentences:

- I eat bananas in my cereal.
- I bought a bunch of bananas.
- He ate a banana split with ice cream, whipped cream, sauce, and bananas.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

* Bathroom



Same Sign for: Toilet

Description: Shake the "T" hand, side to side, palm facing forward.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) room with a toilet, sink, and sometimes a bath tub or shower

Sample Sentences:

- Where is the bathroom?
- May I use your bathroom?
- I need to go to the bathroom.

Adult Day Care, Around the House, Common Signs, Heath/Hospital

* Be Careful



Same Sign for: Careful

Description: Strike the little finger side of the right "K" hand, palm left, on top of the index finger side of the left "K" hand, palm right, twice. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to be careful

Sample Sentences:

- You must be careful not to make mistakes.
- Accidents will not happen if you are careful.
- Be careful when you drive this car.

Adult Day Care, Around the House, On the Job, Safety/Survival



Beans



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch tips of extended index fingers of "G" hands, palms facing each other, to thumbs twice while drawing hands apart. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Fingers follow the shape of a bean.

Definition: (noun) a vegetable with large seeds that grow in pods; We eat different kinds of beans, including: green (string) beans, lima beans, kidney beans, wax (yellow) beans, etc.

Sample Sentences:

- Do you want green beans or lima beans?
- I like baked beans.
- Chili is made with meat and beans.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✕

Bed



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the open right palm against the side of the face, leaning face toward hand.

Hints/Origin: Imitates laying the head on the pillow

Definition: (noun) furniture to sleep or rest on

Sample Sentences:

- I have a blue blanket on my bed.
- I put clean sheets on the bed.
- My dog sleeps in bed with me.

Around the House

* Bedroom



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the palm of the open right hand on the side of the face. Place both flat hands, right in front of left, in front of the body several inches apart, palms facing inward. Move hands to the sides, palms facing each other and fingers pointing forward, as if outlining a room.

Hints/Origin: "Bed" plus "Room"

Definition: (noun) the room where you sleep

Sample Sentences:

- I have two beds in my bedroom.
- I watch TV in my bedroom at night.
- I have a table next to my bed in my bedroom.

Around the House

✱

Before



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands open, palms in, place back of right hand in left palm. Then, move right hand in toward chest.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb) earlier

Sample Sentences:

- I have done this before.
- Have you worked before?
- He applied for a job here before.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

✱

Best



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring fingertips of closed "5" hand from chin upward and to the right while changing to "A" handshape, palm in, thumb up.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) as good as possible; better than all others
(adverb) in a way that is as good as possible

Sample Sentences:

- I work best when I am rested.
- She won the prize for best worker.
- This restaurant has the best food.

Directions/Reinforcement, Size/Shape/Quantity

✱

Better



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the fingertips of the closed "5" hand slightly to the right, changing to the "A" handshape (thumb up, palm back).

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) more than good: (adverb) in a more excellent way

Sample Sentences:

- She types well, but Mary types better.
- Ann's work is better than Melissa's.
- You did a better job today, after your lesson.

Directions, Reinforcement, Size/Shape/Quantity

* Beverage



Same Sign for:

Description: Hold a "C" hand in front of the mouth, palm facing body; move hand upward toward face as if taking a drink.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) something to drink

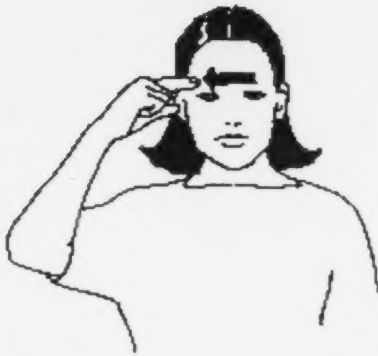
Sample Sentences:

- Their beverages include coffee, tea, milk, and pop.
- My favorite beverage is coffee.
- Do you want a beverage with your lunch?

Fast Food/Restaurants, Drinks

✱

Black



Same Sign for:

Description: Drag the extended index finger, pointing left, palm down, across the forehead to the right.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) the darkest color; the opposite of white; the color of crows and ants

Sample Sentences:

- She has black hair, the same color as coal.
- A black cat is bad luck.
- I bought black material for the witch's costume.

Colors

✱

Blue



Same Sign for:

Description: With the "B" hand in front of the chest, fingers pointing up and palm forward slightly, twist the wrist back and forth. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) the color of the sky during the day, or the color of jeans

Sample Sentences:

- Her dog won a blue ribbon for first prize.
- The blue sky turned gray before the storm.
- The blue swimming pool matched the blue sky.

Colors

✱

Body



Same Sign for: Health

Description: Touch the upper chest and then the lower chest with the palms of both open hands.

Hints/Origin: Shows the location of the body.

Definition: (noun) the whole of a person

Sample Sentences:

- Exercise to keep your body fit.
- The body needs enough sleep to be all right.
- Eating good food is important for a healthy body.

Health/Hospital

✱

Book



Same Sign for: Notebook, Textbook

Description: Starting with palms together in front of chest, fingers pointing forward, move the hands apart, keeping the little fingers together. Repeat.

Hints/Origin: Mime opening a book.

Definition: (noun) printed pages held together with a cover

Sample Sentences:

- I'm reading a book about jobs.
- She wrote a book about deaf culture.
- May I borrow your sign language book?
- Computer instructions are in this book.

Common Signs

✱

Born



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with both hands open in front of chest, palms in, right fingers pointing left. Place back of right hand against left palm. Then, move right hand down and out to right, ending with palm down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to begin life; When a baby is born, it comes out of its mother's body and begins its life.

Sample Sentences:

- When were you born?
- He was born on New Year's Day.
- The baby was born in Montifiore Hospital.

Health/Hospital, Interview/Forms

✱

Boss



Same Sign for: Chief, Chairman, Officer, Captain, General

Description: Tap the top of the right shoulder with the fingertips of the "claw" right hand a few times.

Hints/Origin: Indicates position of insignia on an officer's shoulder.

Definition: (noun) the person in charge; the person who is responsible for a whole business or company

Sample Sentences:

- My boss won't give me the day off.
- Do you like your new boss?
- The boss will hire someone to do the job.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, On the Job

✱

Bother



Same Sign for:

Description: Strike little finger side of right, closed "5" hand, palm facing body into opening between index finger and thumb of left closed "5" hand, palm down. Strike twice.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to disturb; to intrude; to make trouble

Sample Sentences:

- I never bother my boss with silly qusetions.
- Don't bother me when I'm in a meeting.
- The bright light bothers me.

Common Signs, On the Job

✱

Bottle



Same Sign for:

Description: Starting with left open hand, palm facing up, move the right "C" hand, palm left, upward, narrowing to show neck of bottle.

Hints/Origin: Hands form the shape and height of a bottle

Definition: (noun) a container for liquids

Sample Sentences:

- I buy pop in bottles not in cans.
- There is a bottle of ketchup on the table.
- The baby drinks milk from a bottle.

Containers/Utensils

✱

Bowl



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with cupped hands side by side in front of the body. Then, draw them apart into "C" hands, palms facing each other.

Hints/Origin: Hands form the shape of bowl

Definition: (noun) a deep round dish that holds food

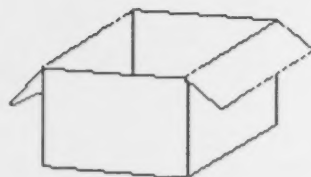
Sample Sentences:

- I poured cereal and milk into my bowl.
- I had a bowl of soup with dinner.
- He mixed the cake in a bowl.

Containers/Utensils

✱

Box



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands open in front of body, left hand in front of right hand, palms in, move hands to sides of body, ending with palms facing and fingertips pointing out.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a container with a top, bottom, and sides

Sample Sentences:

- He gave his girlfriend a box of candy.
- The children put the Valentines in a red box.
- The TV was packed in a box.

Containers/Utensils, Mail Room, Supermarket

✱

Boy



Same Sign for:

Description: With the index finger of the flattened "C" right hand near the right side of forehead, close the fingers and thumb together.

Hints/Origin: Tipping of a boy's hat.

Definition: (noun) a male child

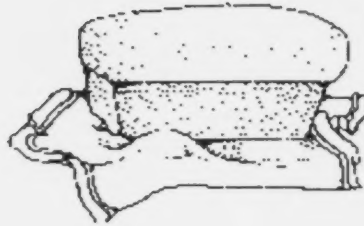
Sample Sentences:

- The boy went fishing with his dad.
- The little boy wore a baseball hat.
- The boy wants to be a lawyer when he grows up.

People



Bread



Same Sign for:

Description: With the left bent open hand facing the body, roll the fingertips of the bent right hand down over the back of the left hand several times. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Slicing a loaf of bread.

Definition: (noun) a food made from flour, water, and yeast and then baked

Sample Sentences:

- I had four slices of bread with dinner.
- I had bread with my salad.
- May I please have butter for my bread?

Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Break



Same Sign for:

Description: With both "S" hands side by side in front of chest, jerk the hands up and apart by twisting the wrists outward.

Hints/Origin: Taking something in your hands and breaking it in half.

Definition: (verb) to come apart; to destroy

Sample Sentences:

- The elevator broke, and I was stuck for two hours.
- The computer broke when I knocked it off my desk.
- My coffee cup fell and broke.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, Time/Schedule

✱

Breath



Same Sign for: Breathe

Description: Start with the left open hand above the right open hand, both palms toward the chest. Then move both hands together slowly back and forth repeatedly.

Hints/Origin: The hands follow the in and out movement of the chest during breathing.

Definition: (noun) the air you take in and force out of your lungs

Sample Sentences:

- The doctor said, "Take a deep breath."
- On a cold day, you can see your breath.
- He was out of breath from running.

Health/Hospital

✱

Bring



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring both upturned closed hands from right to left in a long arc in front of the body.

Hints/Origin: Mime bringing something in your arms.

Definition: (verb) to come with; to take along

Sample Sentences:

- Bring your lunch to work.
- The mailman will bring the mail at 10:00.
- Bring a pencil and paper to take notes.

On the Job

✱

Brother



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the thumb of the right "L" hand from the right side of forehead smoothly down, ending with the index fingers of both hands, pointing outward at chest level side by side.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) son of the same parents

Sample Sentences:

- Mother drives my brother and me to school.
- My brother and I made breakfast for our parents.
- My mother, father, brother, and I are going to the zoo.

Family Relationships, People

✱

Brown



Same Sign for:

Description: Stroke the index finger of the "B" hand down the cheek, palm facing outward.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign

Definition: (adjective) the color of coffee, chocolate, and fudge brownies

Sample Sentences:

- I like dark brown chocolate better than light brown chocolate.
- The coffee is ready when it is dark brown.
- Root beer and Coke are both brown.

Colors

✱

Build



Same Sign for: Construct, Erect

Description: Bend both hands. Position them in front of chest, palms down, Place fingers of one hand on top of other, alternating several times.

Hints/Origin: Placing one brick or building block upon another.

Definition: (verb) to make something by putting its pieces together; to construct something, piece by piece

Sample Sentences:

- They are building a new mall near my house.
- Most youngsters like to build things with blocks.
- She built a model airplane with pieces of wood.

Around the House

*

Bury



Same Sign for: Grave

Description: Move both downturned open hands, fingers pointing forward, back toward the body in an arc.

Hints/Origin: Hands follow the mound of dirt on a grave.

Definition: (verb) to put in the earth

Sample Sentences:

- He was buried the day after he died.
- My kids buried their pet frog when it died.
- They dug for buried treasure.
- They had to bury many bodies after the hurricane.

Safety/Survival

*

Busy



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with right hand in "B" shape, palm out, fingers pointing up. Brush from side to side on wrist of left hand, palm down.

Hints/Origin: "B" hand in "work" sign position.

Definition: (adjective) having a lot to do; doing something already; doing many many things

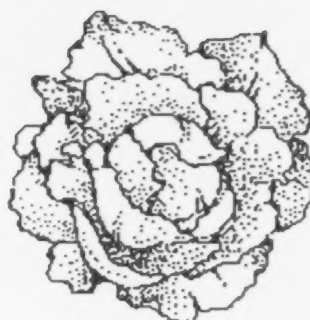
Sample Sentences:

- The boss is a busy person.
- The mall is always busy before Christmas.
- He was busy studying for the test.
- If you are too busy today, finish it tomorrow.

Common Signs

✳

Cabbage



Same Sign for: Lettuce

Description: Tap the heel of the curved open hand, palm right, above the right temple.

Hints/Origin: Indicates a head of cabbage or lettuce.

Definition: (noun) a vegetable with leaves that grow in a round head.

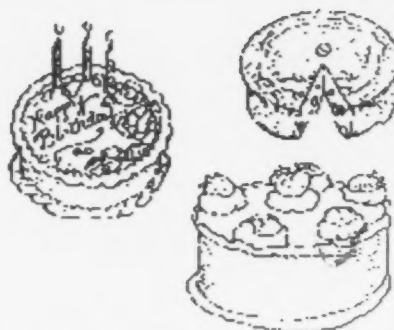
Sample Sentences:

- Cole slaw is made of cabbage.
- He made sauerkraut from the cabbage.
- Rabbits ate the cabbage in my garden.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket



Cake



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "C" shape, palm down, and left hand open, palm up, place right fingertips in left palm. Then, move right hand out across left palm and repeat. Note: Can use circular movement to indicate whole cake.

Hints/Origin: Shows a slice of cake, or the entire cake.

Definition: (noun) a dessert made of flour, eggs, and sugar and baked in an oven

Sample Sentences:

- He had chocolate cake for dessert.
- Blow out the candles on your birthday cake.
- I like the frosting on this cake.

Desserts/Snacks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Can



Same Sign for:

Description: Both "S" hands, palms forward, move down firmly, twisting forward at wrist, until palms are facing down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to be able to do something

Sample Sentences:

- I can begin working immediately.
- Patty can type 60 words per minute.
- He can do the job if he is trained properly.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, On the Job

*

Can't



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the extended right index finger downward brushing the left extended index fingertip as it passes, both palms down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) not able to do something; can not

Sample Sentences:

- I can't start my new job until January.
- He wears a life jacket, because he can't swim.
- I can't remember the girl's name.
- I can't find my keys.
- If you can't be on time, call your boss on the TTY.

Common Signs, On the Job

✱

Cancel



Same Sign for: Criticize

Description: Using the extended right index finger, draw a large "X" across the left palm, which is facing right.

Hints/Origin: Cross out something that is incorrect.

Definition: (verb) to stop; to put an end to; to set aside; to call off

Sample Sentences:

- He cancelled the meeting.
- The company will cancel our medical benefits.
- Please call to cancel your appointment.

On the Job

✱

Capture



Same Sign for: Arrest, Catch

Description: The right "claw" hand, palm forward, moves down changing into "S" hand shape and landing on the back of the downturned left "S" hand.

Hints/Origin: Surrounding and capturing someone.

Definition: (verb) to make a prisoner; to catch and hold by force

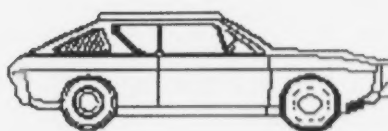
Sample Sentences:

- The police captured the bank robber.
- Security captured the gunman.
- The terrorist was captured by the army.

Police, Safety/Survival

✱

Car



Same Sign for: Drive

Description: Alternately move both "S" hands, palms toward body, up and down at an angle.

Hints/Origin: Mime driving a car

Definition: (noun) a road vehicle which has four wheels and an engine. Cars need a driver and can usually carry three or four passengers.

Sample Sentences:

- She will drive to work in her new car.
- A Cadillac is a very expensive car.
- Her car was stolen on Friday night.
- They fixed the engine of his car.
- He needs a car to get to work.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms



Card



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch index fingers and thumbs of bent "L" hands. Simultaneously, move hands apart several inches and then move index finger and thumb of each hand together, outlining the shape of a card.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a stiff piece of paper, usually small and rectangular

Sample Sentences:

- Do you have your medical insurance cards?
- You need a check cashing card at the supermarket.
- My credit cards are in my wallet.

Interview/Forms



Carrot



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the "S" hand near the right side of the mouth. Move it slowly inward toward the mouth. NOTE: Sign this with a quick clicking of the teeth as if biting or chewing on a carrot.

Hints/Origin: Eating a carrot.

Definition: (noun) a long orange vegetable that grows under the ground

Sample Sentences:

- Rabbits like to eat carrots.
- You can eat carrots raw or cooked.
- I made a roast with carrots and potatoes.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Catch



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with right hand in curved "5" shape at shoulder, palm out and left hand in "S" shape in front of chest palm down. Move right hand down, while closing to "S" shape, onto back of left hand.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to take and hold

Sample Sentences:

- The police will catch the murderer.
- If they catch him, he will go to jail.
- If you drive too fast, the state trooper will catch you.
- Catch the ball and throw it to first base.

Police

✱

Ceiling



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both "B" hands above the head, side by side, palms facing down. Move the right hand smoothly forward at the same level.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the top of a room

Sample Sentences:

- There is a fan on the ceiling.
- The spider crawled up the wall to the ceiling.
- I lie in bed and look at the ceiling at night.

Around the House

* Certificate



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the thumb nails of the "C" hands several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a written statement that proves something is true

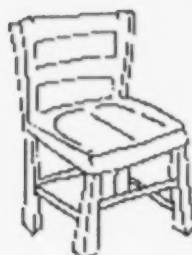
Sample Sentences:

- You will receive a certificate of graduation when you finish the course.
- Your birth certificate proves when you were born.
- I got a certificate for winning the race.

Interview/Forms

*

Chair



Same Sign for: Seat

Description: Hook the right curved "U" fingers onto the left flat "U" fingers, both palms facing down.

Hints/Origin: Two legs dangling from seat of chair.

Definition: (noun) furniture on which you sit

Sample Sentences:

- This chair is not very comfortable.
- The old chair didn't match the new furniture.
- We need another chair at the dinner table.
- You can sit in the big chair.
- I need a new chair for my desk.

Around the House, Common Signs

*

Change



Same Sign for: Adapt, Alter

Description: With the knuckles of the right "A" hand, palm down, on the knuckles of the left "A" hand, palm up, twist the wrists in opposite directions putting the hands in reverse positions.

Hints/Origin: Turn something into something else.

Definition: (noun) to alter; to modify; to make something different

Sample Sentences:

- He changed my work shift from day to night.
- We need to change the light bulb.
- They will change the job rules now.

On the Job, Time/Schedule

*

Check



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Put right hand in "1" shape and left hand open, palm up, fingers pointing out. With right index finger, make a check mark on left palm.

(2) First, make the sign for money. Then, place both hands in "L" shape in front of chest, palms out, tips of right thumb and index fingers touching left thumb and index finger. Move hands to side and away from each other, with index fingers pointing up, ending with tips of thumbs and index fingers of same hand touching (as if you were outlining the shape of a check).

Definition: (1) (verb) to look something over for mistakes: (2) (noun) a note telling your bank to pay money to the person named on it

Same Sign for:

(1)

- Please check for typing errors before you send the letter.
- Check to see if your billing is for the correct amount.
- The inspectors check for mistakes.

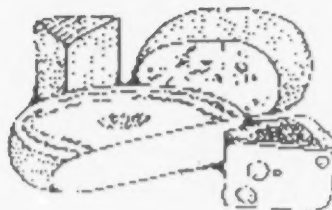
(2)

- Our store accepts money, checks, and credit cards.
- At the end of every workday, I take the money and checks to the bank.
- The cash register has a place for checks and a place for cash.

Bank/Money, Fast Food/Restaurants, Mail Room



Cheese



Same Sign for:

Description: Rub the heel of the curved right "5" hand, palm down, on the upturned heel of the left hand with a twisting motion. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Pressing cheese into shape.

Definition: (noun) a food made from milk

Sample Sentences:

- I want cheese on my hamburger.
- I want a plain hamburger without cheese.
- Do you like Swiss cheese or Cheddar cheese?

Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket



Cherry



Same Sign for: Berry

Description: Surround the little fingertip of the left "5" hand, palm toward body, with the right fingertips, thumb at bottom. Twist right hand away from body several times. Optional: The color of the berry may be added to specify which berry is meant for example: blue plus berry for blueberry.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a small round fruit with a pit in the middle that grows on trees

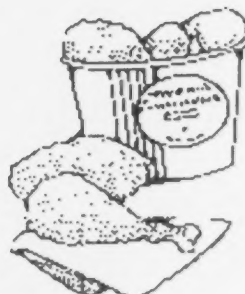
Sample Sentences:

- George Washington cut down a cherry tree.
- I like cherry pie.
- Cherry trees bloom in the spring.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

*

Chicken



Same Sign for: Bird

Description: Touch the thumb of the right crooked "3" hand to the right of the temple.

Hints/Origin: Shows how bird's beak chirps or eats.

Definition: (noun) a hen or rooster raised for food

Sample Sentences:

- I want a chicken sandwich and pop.
- I like fried chicken and french fries.
- I had chicken for lunch.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Child



Same Sign for:

Description: Make a couple of short downward movements with the open hand, palm at waist level.

Hints/Origin: Patting a child on the head.

Definition: a young boy or girl

Sample Sentences:

- The child knocked over the display.
- I missed work when my child was sick.
- Mr. and Mrs. Jones have one child.

People



Children



Same Sign for:

Description: Bounce right hand, palm down, several times, moving from in front of body to the right.

Hints/Origin: Patting several children on the head

Definition: (noun) boys and girls

Sample Sentences:

- How many children do you have?
- My children go to day care when I work.
- There are 15 children in the class.

Interview/Forms, People

* Chocolate



Same Sign for:

Description: Circle the right "C" hand on the back of the left hand, palm down.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign

Definition: (noun) a sweet brown food made from sugar and cocoa

Sample Sentences:

- I love brownies because I love chocolate.
- I like chocolate frosting on white cake.
- I got a chocolate bunny for Easter.

Desserts/Snacks, Fast Food/Restaurant

*

Choose



Same Sign for: Pick, Select

Description: Bring the bent thumb and index finger of the right "5" hand back toward the right shoulder closing the thumb to the index fingertip.

Hints/Origin: Making a selection of the fingers on the left hand.

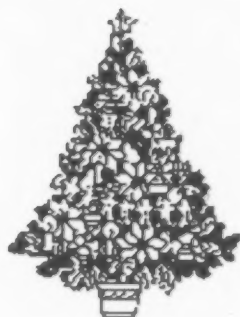
Definition: (verb) to decide to take something; to decide to do something instead of something else; to pick something or someone

Sample Sentences:

- You can choose your work shift.
- The manager will choose a new assistant.
- Choose a color for your new rug.

Directions/Reinforcement

* Christmas



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the right "C" hand, palm facing out, from right to left forming an upward arc.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) December 25, Christ's Birthday - the season for presents, holly, wreaths, Christmas trees, and Santa Claus

Sample Sentences:

- We decorate cookies and a tree for Christmas.
- Santa Claus brings us presents on Christmas Eve.
- My family goes to church on Christmas.

Holidays

✱

Clean up



Same Sign for:

Description: Quickly sign "clean" several times by wiping the downturned right hand across the upturned left hand several times.

Hints/Origin: Mime cleaning something

Definition: (verb) to remove dirt; to put in order

Sample Sentences:

- The supervisor said we must clean up this mess.
- The janitors clean up the offices at night.
- I want to clean up this room before the meeting.

On the Job

✱

Closet



Same Sign for:

Description: Starting with the thumbtips of the "5" hands, palms down near the armpits, sweep thumbs down chest repeatedly. With both "B" hands side by side, palms outward, swing the right "B" hand back with a circular motion.

Hints/Origin: "Clothes" plus "Door"

Definition: (noun) a very small room for keeping clothes, sheets, towels, and household supplies

Sample Sentences:

- Put the towels in the linen closet.
- Pick up your clothes and hang them in the closet.
- Hang your coat in the closet.

Around the House

✱

Coconut



Same Sign for:

Description: Shake both "claw" hands, palms facing, simultaneously near the ear.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a large nut with white meat and a white liquid inside; the fruit of a palm tree

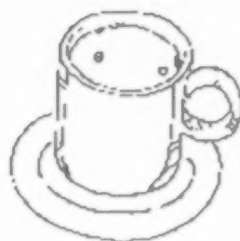
Sample Sentences:

- He opened the coconut with a hammer.
- I like cake with coconut on the frosting.
- The coconut has a juice called milk.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Coffee



Same Sign for:

Description: Circle the right "S" hand above the left "S" hand, palms facing the body.

Hints/Origin: Grinding coffee beans.

Definition: (noun) a hot drink made from the beans of a coffee plant

Sample Sentences:

- She likes sugar in her coffee.
- The coffee was too hot.
- I have a coffee break at 10:00.
- He drinks two cups of coffee before work.

Common Signs, Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

*

Coke



Same Sign for: Coca-cola

Description: Touch the index finger of the right hand to the upper left arm, and wiggle thumb a few times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) cola flavored soda

Sample Sentences:

- I'd like a hamburger and a coke.
- Coke is my favorite drink.
- Do you like 7-Up or Coke.

Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Cold



Same Sign for: (1) Chilly, Winter (2) Handkerchief

Description: (1) Shake both "S" hands toward each other, palms facing. (2) Put thumb and bent index finger on each side of nose and pull down a few times.

Hints/Origin: (1) Mime shivering motion from being cold. Shivering in the winter. (2) Mime using a handkerchief

Definition: (1) (adjective) having a low temperature: (2) (noun) an illness that affects the nose and throat

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- Ice is cold.
- A cold drink tastes great on a hot day.
- Wear warm clothes when it is cold.
- Winter is my favorite season.

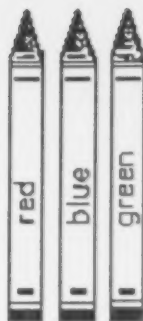
(2)

- I stayed home from work because I had a cold.
- I had a cough when I had a cold.
- Wear warm clothes so you don't catch a cold.

Adult Day Care, Health/Hospital

✱

Color



Same Sign for:

Description: Wiggle the fingertips of the "5" hand, palm facing the chin.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) red, yellow, green, etc. Color allows you to tell the difference between two things which are exactly the same in shape and size

Sample Sentences:

- Did you use color film in the camera?
- What color did they paint your office?
- The ad is printed in color, not black and white.

Colors

✱

Come



Same Sign for:

Description: With both extended index fingers pointing forward, palm facing up, at waist level, bring the index fingers up toward the body in a large arc.

Hints/Origin: Something coming toward the body.

Definition: (verb) to approach; to arrive; to move near

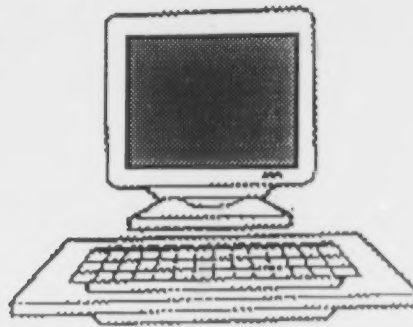
Sample Sentences:

- Come to my house for dinner.
- When do you think the bus will come?
- They can't come to my office.
- He comes to work early.

Common Signs



Computer



Same Sign for:

Description: Hit thumb of right "C" hand on back of wrist of left arm.
Bounce "C" twice moving up left arm.

Definition: (noun) An electronic device which can be instructed to do mathematics and other things with numbers and words.

Sample Sentences:

- The computer makes writing fun!
- The computer corrects my spelling errors.
- All the data will be put into the computer.
- I like to type on the computer.

Common Signs, Computers

✱

Confused



Same Sign for: Mixed up, Confusion

Description: Move the right downturned "claw" hand in a circular movement above the left upturned "claw" hand. Move the left hand in a circle in the opposite direction. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Mixing something up.

Definition: (adjective) mixed up

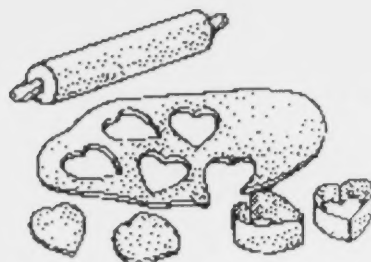
Sample Sentences:

- He was confused by the time change, and turned the clock the wrong way.
- I was confused when my boss changed the rules.
- Joe was confused, because the directions were not clear.

Safety/Survival



Cookie



Same Sign for: Biscuit

Description: With right hand in claw shape, palm down and left hand open, palm up, put right fingertips on left palm. Then, twist right hand back and forth several times.

Hints/Origin: Shows the shape of a cookie in the hand.

Definition: (noun) a small flat sweet cake

Sample Sentences:

- I love chocolate chip cookies.
- I bake a lot of Christmas cookies.
- Cookies and milk are a good snack.

Desserts/Snacks, Supermarket

✱

Copy



Same Sign for: Imitate

Description: Quickly bring right "5" hand, palm forward, to sit on left hand, palm up. As right hand moves toward left, change shape from "5" to "and"

Hints/Origin: As if taking something in front of you and putting it in your hand (making it yours)

Definition: (verb) to do something the same as someone else: (noun) something made to look like something else

Sample Sentences:

- Please make a copy of this letter.
- Can you copy these charts by noon?
- I need a copy of this map.

Directions/Reinforcement

✱

Corn



Same Sign for: Corn On The Cob

Description: Place the "A" hands, knuckles forward, at the sides of the chin, elbows out. Turn hands by twisting the wrists.

Hints/Origin: Eating corn on the cob.

Definition: (noun) a kind of grain that grows on ears

Sample Sentences:

- I like corn on the cob.
- Some animals eat corn.
- Some cereals are made of corn; *Corn Flakes*, for example

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Count



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with right hand in "9" shape, palm down, and left hand open, palm up, fingers pointing out. Move tips of right thumb and index finger along left palm from heel to fingertips.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to name numbers in order; to find out how many

Sample Sentences:

- I must count the people who are coming to dinner.
- Count the computers to see if they are all here.
- Count the supplies before you order more.

Bank/Money, Mail Room



Cousin



Same Sign for:

Description: With the "C" hand, palm facing the cheek, twist the wrist outward twice. NOTE: The sign may be made near the forehead for a male cousin or near the chin for a female cousin.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the son or daughter of one's uncle or aunt

Sample Sentences:

- I never see my cousins, because my uncle and aunt live far away.
- When my mother and aunt go shopping, my cousin and I go to a movie.
- My cousin's dad is my father's baby brother.

Family Relationships

✱

Cream



Same Sign for:

Description: Drag the little finger side of the right curved closed "5" hand across the upturned left closed "5" hand.

Hints/Origin: As if skimming the cream from the top of milk.

Definition: (noun) the part of milk which is full of fat and rises to the top

Sample Sentences:

- Do you want milk or cream in your coffee?
- Most cheese is made of cream.
- Whipped cream is made from sugar and cream.

Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Cry



Same Sign for:

Description: Alternately stroke downward on the cheeks with the fingertips of both extended index fingers, palms toward face.

Hints/Origin: Tears streaming down the face.

Definition: (verb) to shed tears; to weep; to show sadness

Sample Sentences:

- We cried when our boss retired.
- I wanted to cry when I lost the report.
- When we heard the sad news, we cried.

Feelings

✱

Cup



Same Sign for: Can

Description: With right hand in "C" shape, palm facing left, and with left hand open, palm up, fingers pointing right, place edge of right little finger on left palm.

Hints/Origin:

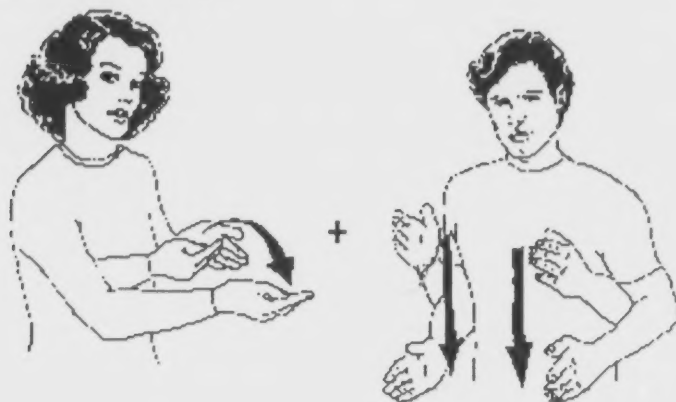
Definition: (noun) a small bowl with a handle used for drinking

Sample Sentences:

- I want a cup of tea.
- The waitress poured a cup of coffee.
- My little brother drinks milk from a cup.

Containers/Utensils

* Customer



Same Sign for:

Description: Place back of right flat "O" hand on the upturned left palm. Move right hand up and forward as if taking money from left hand and giving it to someone. Add person marker.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a person who buys

Sample Sentences:

- The customer waited for a salesman to help him.
- Always thank the customer after he pays.
- The customer looked at every camera in the store.

On the Job, Supermarket

*

Cut



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "V" shape, palm in, fingers pointing left, make cutting motion with index and middle fingers while moving hand left across chest, ending in "H" shape.

Hints/Origin: As if cutting with the right hand.

Definition: (verb) to divide or separate something into pieces, using a scissors or a knife

Sample Sentences:

- The butcher cuts the meat with a butcher's knife.
- These scissors are sharp enough to cut wire.
- You will need a knife to cut open this box.

Around the House, Mail Room, Size/Shape/Quantity

*

Damage



Same Sign for: Destroy

Description: Move the right downturned "claw" hand over the upturned left "claw" hand toward the chest changing the right hand into an "A" handshape while the hand moves. Bring the right "A" hand back out across the left hand which has changed into an "A" handshape.

Hints/Origin: Taking something and tearing it to shreds.

Definition: (verb) to harm; to injure

Sample Sentences:

- Heat damaged the computer.
- An unhappy customer can damage business.
- The rain leaked in and damaged the curtains.

Safety/Survival

*

Danger



Same Sign for: Dangerous, Peril

Description: Brush the back of the right "A" thumb, palm left, upward on the back of the left hand, left palm toward lower chest, several times.

Hints/Origin: Left arm appears to be protecting body from assault.

Definition: (noun) the opposite of safety

Sample Sentences:

- The sign said "Danger. Keep Out."
- A roofer is often in danger of falling.
- The broken bridge was a danger for all cars.

Health/Hospital, Safety/Survival

✱

Data



Same Sign for: Inform, Notify

Description: Start with both hands in the "AND" shape, palms in. Place hands at forehead. Then, move hands down and out, ending with hands open, palms up.

Hints/Origin:

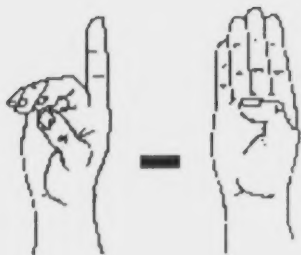
Definition: (noun) the words or numbers a program uses; the information printed after a program is run; facts; information

Sample Sentences:

- The data for this program must be typed into the computer.
- The data came from the computer sheet.
- The data must be correct.
- According to our data, your payment is due.
- Our data show that you took three sick days.

Computers, On the Job

* Data Base



Same Sign for:

Description: Sign "D - B"

Hints/Origin:

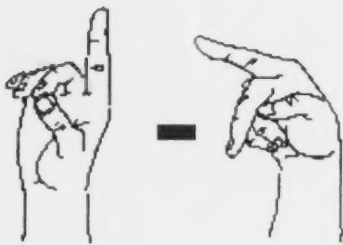
Definition: (noun) information that a program uses

Sample Sentences:

- This data base contains name, address, and phone number.
- The data base has employee information.
- Six different programs use this data base.

Computers

* Data Processing



Same Sign for:

Description: Sign "D - P"

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) business programming written in computer language

Sample Sentences:

- The Data Processing Department does the payroll.
- There is a room of computers in the Data Processing Department.
- I want a job in Data Processing.

Computers

* Daughter



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the thumb of the right "A" hand down the right side of the chin changing to the "B" hand as it moves down to the crook of the bent left arm, ending with the palm up.

Hints/Origin: Rocking a female child.

Definition: (noun) the female child of a parent

Sample Sentences:

- I took maternity leave when my daughter was born.
- Before I go to work, I take my daughter to day care.
- My daughter works near her brother.

Family Relationships

✧

Day



Same Sign for: All day

Description: Place the elbow of the bent right arm, "1" hand straight up, palm left, on the downturned left hand. Move the extended right index finger downward toward the left elbow keeping the right elbow in place.

Hints/Origin: Right arm mimes perceived movement of sun during the day.

Definition: (noun) the time between morning and night; a period of time lasting 24 hours

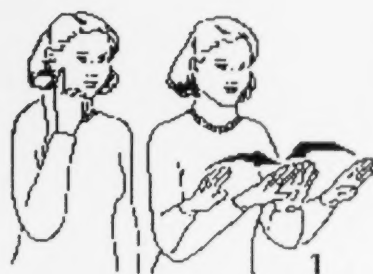
Sample Sentences:

- I will be in my office most of the day.
- Do you work every day.
- What day would you like to meet.?
- The sun usually shines during the day.
- There are 365 days in a year.
- I like the day shift better than the night shift.

Common Signs, Time/Schedule

✱

Deaf



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Bring the right extended index finger from touching the ear, palm left, down changing into a "B" hand in front of the chest, and meeting left "B" hand, both palms down. (2) First, touch the right ear, then the right side of the mouth with the index finger of the right "1" hand, palm facing left.

Hints/Origin: The ears are closed.

Definition: (adjective) not able to hear

Sample Sentences:

- Joe is deaf.
- My parents are deaf.
- Do you know anyone who is deaf?
- The deaf man can't hear the horn.

Common Signs

✱

Defend



Same Sign for: Protect, Guard

Description: With both "S" hands crossed at the wrists in front of upper chest, palms down, move both hands forward with a double motion.

Hints/Origin: The hands are held up to protect the body.

Definition: (verb) to guard; to protect

Sample Sentences:

- He defended me at the meeting.
- The security guard will defend you.
- The army defended the people in Kuwait.

Safety/Survival

✱

Delete



Same Sign for: Deletion

Description: Flick the thumb off the index finger.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to erase from computer memory or from a disk; to remove letters, words, or pictures from a written page, a video recording, etc.

Sample Sentences:

- He deleted three programs from his disk.
- Every month, I delete the programs I don't need.
- If I delete this document, I will have more room on my disk.
- Please delete Mr. Linton's name from this list.

Computers

* Department



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "D" shape in front of chest, palms facing, index fingers pointing up, move hands out and around in a circular motion until little fingers touch.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a separate part; a division

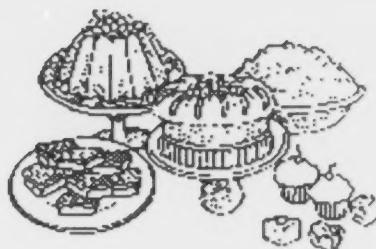
Sample Sentences:

- Job applications go to the personnel department.
- This department does not handle company complaints.
- We do not have a payroll department, because we send our payroll out.

Interview/Forms, Mail Room



Dessert



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the two facing "D" hands together at the middle fingers several times. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Initialized Sign

Definition: (noun) the food we eat at the end of a meal. It is usually a sweet food

Sample Sentences:

- I will have ice cream for dessert.
- I do not eat dessert when I diet.
- My favorite dessert is chocolate cake.

Desserts/Snacks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

* Dictionary



Same Sign for:

Description: Move right "D" hand in a circular motion touching left upturned palm at the bottom of the circle.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign showing turning pages of a dictionary (held in left hand) with right hand.

Definition: (noun) a book which lists words in alphabetical order and gives their meanings

Sample Sentences:

- This computer comes with a dictionary.
- The dictionary can help you spell many words.
- Every secretary must use a dictionary.

Directions/Reinforcement

*

Die



Same Sign for: Death, Dead

Description: With the upturned right hand beside the downturned left hand, fingers pointing forward, side by side, flip the hands to the left so that the right palm faces down and the left palm faces up.

Hints/Origin: Mime a body turning over to die.

Definition: (verb) to stop living

Sample Sentences:

- My boss forgot to feed the fish so they died.
- The plants in the waiting room got too much water and died.
- My grandfather died last week. He was sick for a long time.

Health/Hospital, Safety/Survival

* Dining Room



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the lips with the fingertips and thumb together. Place the left and right flat hands in front of the body several inches apart, palms facing inward. Move hands to the sides, palms facing each other. Note: Can initialize "room", using "R" hands.

Hints/Origin: "Eat" plus "room".

Definition: (noun) a room where dinner and other meals are eaten

Sample Sentences:

- Dinner is at 7:00 in the dining room.
- She cleared the dining room table.
- Set the table for dinner in the dining room.

Adult Day Care, Around the House

✧

Dish



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the tips of the curved thumbs and middle fingers to each other twice, palms facing each other and all other fingers extended. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Indicates the shape of a dish.

Definition: (noun) a plate of food; plates, bowls, cups

Sample Sentences:

- Please put the dishes on the table.
- There was too much food on my dish.
- He washes dishes at a restaurant.
- The waitress broke a dish.

Containers/Utensils



Doctor



Same Sign for: Medical

Description: Touch the fingertips of the "M" hand on the wrist of the upturned left hand a few times. NOTE: This can be done with a "D" hand instead.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign where doctors feel the pulse

Definition: (noun) someone who takes care of sick people

Sample Sentences:

- The doctor looked in my ears.
- The doctor works in the hospital.
- I told the doctor I had a sore throat.

Adult Day Care, Health/Hospital

✱

Dollar



Same Sign for:

Description: Grasp the fingers of the left open hand, palm toward body, fingers pointing left, with the right bent hand. Pull right hand straight to the right ending in "A" handshape.

Definition: (noun) a unit of money equal to one hundred pennies

Sample Sentences:

- I need a dollar for bus fare.
- I spent the dollar you gave me.
- Four quarters equal one dollar.

Size/Shape/Quantity

* Don't Know



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch fingertips of the bent closed "5" hand to the temple. With a downward movement, turn hand until palm is facing down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb phrase) do not have the knowledge or skill; do not have the answer

Sample Sentences:

- I don't know the answer.
- If you don't know how to type, you can't work here.
- I don't know what time the bank closes.
- He doesn't know how to swim.

Common Phrases

* Don't Like



Same Sign for:

Description: Place "5" hand on chest. Move outward dragging thumb and middle finger toward one another until touching. Turn palm to face out and mime flicking away something with middle finger.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb phrase) not pleased with; not satisfied with

Sample Sentences:

- Customers don't like to wait for service.
- I don't like to be late for work.
- If you don't like driving, you will not like this job.
- They don't like high prices.

Common Phrases

* Don't Mind



Same Sign for: Don't care

Description: Touch tip of index finger of "1" hand to nose. With a downward movement, turn "1" hand until palm is facing down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (phrase) words that show that something is not important to you; doesn't matter

Sample Sentences:

- I don't mind where we eat lunch.
- My boss doesn't mind if I take my vacation in July or August.
- I don't mind if I work the night shift.
- He doesn't care about his appearance.

Common Phrases

*Don't Understand



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with the "S" hand near the right side of the forehead, palm toward face. Flick the index finger up. Shake head "No". Show lack of understanding and confusion with facial expression.

Hints/Origin: Use sign for "understand", plus negative indicator (shaking head).

Definition: (verb phrase) do not get the meaning of

Sample Sentences:

- I don't understand geometry.
- I don't understand the meaning of the word.
- The workers don't understand the rules.
- I don't understand how to use the computer.

Common Phrases

* Don't Want



Same Sign for:

Description: Flip both upturned "claw" hands until palms are facing down. Move hands outward as if discarding something.

Definition: (phrase) not to wish for; not to want something

Sample Sentences:

- I don't want to go to the dentist.
- We don't want to be late.
- She doesn't want that dress. It's too big.

Common Phrases, On the Jop

✱

Door



Same Sign for:

Description: Put index finger edges of "B" hands together, palms forward. Twist index side of the right hand back and forth from the wrist, two times.

Hints/Origin: Indicates a door swinging open.

Definition: (noun) a piece of wood, metal, or glass that closes an entrance; a barrier that must be opened to go in or out of a building or room

Sample Sentences:

- Who is knocking at the door?
- The burglar broke the glass door of the building to get in.
- My house has a front door and a back door.

Around the House

✱

Drawer



Same Sign for:

Description: Draw the extended "S" hands, palms up, toward you with a double motion. Note: Can use "C" hands, palms facing up.

Hints/Origin: Mime pulling open a drawer.

Definition: (noun) a box that slides in and out of a desk, table, or chest

Sample Sentences:

- Put your clothes in the drawer.
- The phone book is in my desk drawer.
- The dresser has four drawers.

Around the House

✱

Dream



Same Sign for: Daydream

Description: Bring the extended index finger from the right temple outward with a wiggly motion, palm toward head.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) thoughts or pictures in your mind when you sleep: (verb) to have a dream

Sample Sentences:

- I had a dream that I got a raise.
- In my dream, I was a movie star.
- The hungry children dreamed about food.

Feelings

✱

Drink



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "C" shape, slightly below chin, palm facing left, move hand up, tipping it toward mouth as if drinking.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to swallow a liquid

Sample Sentences:

- Do not drink alcohol and drive.
- He is too young to drink beer.
- Drink six glasses of water every day.

Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Police

✱

Dumb



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the knuckles of the "A" hand against the forehead, palm toward face.

Hints/Origin: Showing a thick-headed, dumb person.

Definition: (adjective) slow in understanding; stupid; dull

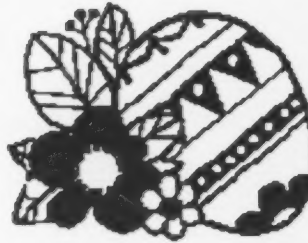
Sample Sentences:

- I made a dumb typing mistake.
- I felt dumb when I didn't know the answer.
- It is not a good idea to act dumb at work.

Feelings



Easter



Sign for:

Description: Move the "E" hand back and forth several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the day Christ rose; a time for flowers, bunnies, Easter baskets, and Easter eggs

Sample Sentences:

- The Easter Bunny brought baskets of candy.
- We ate ham for Easter dinner.
- We decorated Easter eggs.

Holidays

✱

Eat



Same Sign for: Food

Description: With the thumb and fingertips, palm facing down, repeatedly move the fingertips toward the lips with short movements.

Hints/Origin: Represents putting food in the mouth.

Definition: (verb) to chew and swallow food

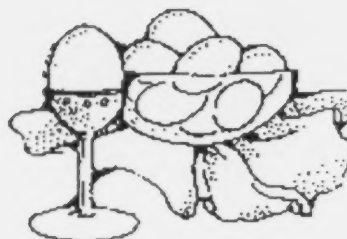
Sample Sentences:

- I eat breakfast at 8:00 A.M.
- I like to eat at a restaurant.
- If you eat too much, you will get fat.

Adult Day Care, Around the House, Fast Food/Restaurants, Health/Hospital

✱

Egg



Same Sign for:

Description: Strike the right "H" fingers across the left "H" fingers, palms facing body, dropping them down and away from each other.

Hints/Origin: Breaking an egg into a bowl.

Definition: (noun) the contents of a hen's egg used for food; a round object with a hard shell, produced by a female bird (The egg is broken open, and the contents are used for food.)

Sample Sentences:

- I'll have scrambled eggs please.
- I ordered coffee, juice, and eggs.
- I want bacon and eggs.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Electric



Same Sign for: Electricity, Battery

Description: With horizontal "X" hands, palms facing body, tap the index fingers together repeatedly.

Hints/Origin: Indicates an electrical charge.

Definition: (adjective) charged (powered) by electricity; an electric machine or device works by using electricity

Sample Sentences:

- We have electric lights, electric ovens, and electric coffee makers.
- Our electric typewriters have been replaced by word processors.
- Do not put too many plugs in the electric outlet.

Safety/Survival



Elevator



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with right hand in "E" shape, palm out, and with left hand open, palm out at an angle, fingers pointing up. Move right hand up and down left palm.

Hints/Origin: Right hand simulates elevator movement.

Definition: (noun) a machine that takes people from one floor to another in a building

Sample Sentences:

- This elevator goes to the top floor.
- An elevator is stuck on the 14th floor.
- I'm waiting for an elevator that is going down

Mail Room

* Embarrassed



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring both "5" hands, palms toward body, in circular alternating movements, upward in front of the face.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) to feel uneasy and ashamed

Sample Sentences:

- I was embarrassed when I made that mistake.
- He was so embarrassed that his face was red.
- My boss was embarrassed by the singing telegram we sent.

Feelings

✱

Floor



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both "B" hands side by side, palms facing down. Separate smoothly outward.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the part of the room people walk on

Sample Sentences:

- After dinner, I sweep the kitchen floor.
- The baby fell down on the floor.
- The floor of my living room has grey carpeting.

Around the House

✱

Flower



Same Sign for:

Description: Place fingertips of the right "And" hand under one nostril, then under the other.

Hints/Origin: As if smelling a flower.

Definition: (noun) the colored part of a plant that attracts bees and then produces fruit

Sample Sentences:

- Cherry trees are covered with flowers in the Spring.
- She picked flowers from her garden.
- Tulips are my favorite flower.

Adult Day Care

* Every Day



Same Sign for: Daily

Description: Slide the thumb of the right "A" hand, palm left down the right side of chin. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb phrase) daily; happening each day

Sample Sentences:

- I exercise before breakfast every day.
- I read the newspaper every day.
- Every day, I take a vitamin pill.

Time/Schedule

* Excuse Me



Same Sign for: Forgive me

Description: Repeatedly brush the fingertips of the bent open right hand, palm down, across the palm and fingers of the upturned left hand, fingers pointing forward.

Hints/Origin: Brushing the mistake aside.

Definition: (phrase) pardon me; a polite phrase you use if you bother someone

Sample Sentences:

- Say "Excuse me" if you bump into someone.
- Excuse me for being late.
- Excuse me for interrupting.
- Excuse me, I must leave the meeting.

Common Phrases

* Experience



Same Sign for:

Description: Brush the fingertips of the "5" hand, palm facing right cheek, downward with a double motion from right temple to touching the thumb.

Hints/Origin: Feeling the greying at the temples from experience.

Definition: (noun) a skill or knowledge you get from doing something

Sample Sentences:

- What other work experience do you have?
- I have experience in word processing.
- My experience includes washing dishes and floors.

Interview/Forms

*

Expert



Same Sign for: Skilled, Good at

Description: Touch the index fingertip and thumb of "F" hand to the chin, and then quickly pull hand straight forward.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) someone who knows a lot about something

Sample Sentences:

- I am an expert cook.
- We are looking for an expert printer.
- The expert showed us how to do it.

Interview/Forms

✱

Explain



Same Sign for: Describe

Description: With both "F" hands, palms facing and fingers pointing forward, move them back and forth alternately.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to give reason for something; to make something clear

Sample Sentences:

- Please explain this to me.
- The book explains how it works.
- He explained his idea at the meeting.

Directions/Reinforcement, Health/Hospital

✱

Explode



Same Sign for: Bomb

Description: Bring both "S" hands, right hand over left, apart in a sudden movement, opening into "5" hands, palms facing each other at shoulder width.

Hints/Origin: A bomb exploding outward.

Definition: (verb) to blow up

Sample Sentences:

- The school was closed because the furnace exploded.
- The scientist uses chemicals that can explode.
- When the plant exploded, many nearby houses were destroyed.

Safety/Survival

✱

Face



Same Sign for: Looks, Appearance

Description: Circle the right "1" finger around the face, beginning at the right side of the chin and circling clockwise.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the front of the head; the part of the body that has the eyes, nose and mouth

Sample Sentences:

- The boxer punched the man in the face.
- He had a smile on his face.
- On Halloween, I wear a mask on my face.

Health/Hospital

*

Faint



Same Sign For:

Description: Bring both "5" hands, palms down, to waist level.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to pass out: (adjective) dizzy; about to become unconscious

Sample Sentences:

- She felt faint after she gave blood.
- He fainted from the heat.
- Sit with your head between your knees if you feel faint.

Health/Hospital

✱

Family



Same Sign for:

Description: Move touching "F" hands, palms facing each other, in a circle outward until the little fingers meet.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign, formed like "class".

Definition: (noun) a father, mother, and their children; a group of related people

Sample Sentences:

- All of my relatives will be at our family dinner.
- My family spends Thanksgiving together.
- Our house is too small for our big family.

Family Relationships

✱

Fast



Same Sign for: Quick, Rapid

Description: With both "T" hands in front of chest, palms facing one another, quickly flick thumbs straight up as hands move down a few inches.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) quick; swift

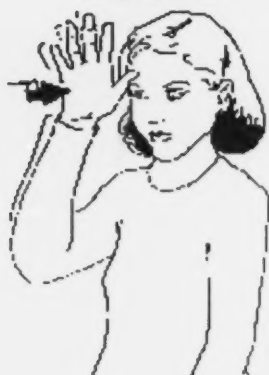
Sample Sentences:

- That horse is very fast.
- We must eat quickly, so we'll have "fast food".
- He drove too fast and had an accident.

On the Job

✱

Father



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the thumb of the "5" hand, palm left, on the right side of the forehead.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a male parent

Sample Sentences:

- My father works in a bakery.
- My mother and father both work hard.
- I see my father a lot, because he works at home.

Family Relationships



Feel



Same Sign for: Feeling, Sense

Description: Brush the extended middle finger of the "5" hand, palm toward body and fingers pointing left, upward in the center of the chest.

Hints/Origin: Bringing feelings out of the heart.

Definition: (verb) to be; to have a feeling about something; to have some emotion

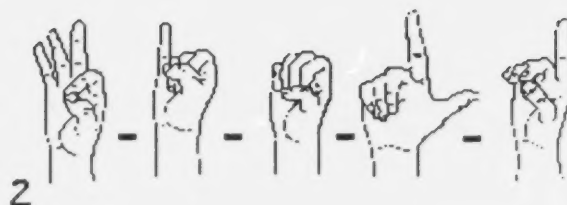
Sample Sentences:

- I feel sad.
- How do you feel today.
- Do you feel okay?
- I feel sad because you are retiring.
- It feels good to be back at work.

Common Signs, Feelings, Directions/Reinforcement, Health/Hospital

✱

Field



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Move the right "F" hand back and forth along a short portion of left index finger. (2) Fingerspell F-I-E-L-D

Hints/Origin: (1) The left index finger represents a data record.

Definition: (1) (noun) a unit of information in a computer data base record
(2) an area in the country where crops grow; an area where sports are played

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- There are three fields in this record: name, height, and weight.
- This record has a field called social security number.
- The data base has 100 records with five fields.

(2)

- The baseball field is too wet to play.
- The farmer planted corn in the field.
- We play soccer and football on the same field.

Common Signs, Computers

✱

Fight



Same Sign for:

Description: Cross the "S" hands, left palm right, right palm left, at wrists several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to struggle against someone: (noun) a battle

Sample Sentences:

- He got a black eye in a fight.
- There was a fight in the bar.
- I like to watch the boxers fight.

Health Hospital, Police

✱

Fine



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the "5" hand, palm left, thumb on chest, forward with a flick of the wrist from the middle of the chest.

Hints/Origin: Similar to fancy, indicating the old time fancy ruffles on a shirt.

Definition: (adjective) very good; excellent: (adverb) very well

Sample Sentences:

- I'm doing fine.
- It's fine with me if you leave early.
- Your work is fine.

Common Signs, On the Job

✱

Finish



Same Sign for: Already, Then

Description: Flip both "5" hands, palms facing up, fingers pointing forward, over quickly until palms are facing down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to complete; to end; did before

Sample Sentences:

- When you finish eating, the boss wants to see you.
- He will finish the job by Christmas.
- You didn't finish your breakfast.
- I finished the report yesterday.
- I must finish bagging these groceries.

Common Signs, On the Job, Computers

✱

Fire



Same Sign for: Burn

Description: (1) While wiggling the fingertips of both "5" hands, move them in alternating circles upward, and outward. (2) Quickly bring the right upturned hand across the thumb side of the left "S" hand, palm left.

Hints/Origin: (1) Shows the flames rising. (2) Sign looks like you are chopping off someone's head with one hand while holding them by the neck with the other.

Definition: 1. (noun) something burning: 2. (verb) dismiss from a job

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- We have fire detectors in every room.
- In case of fire, do not use the elevators.
- The fire burned down the whole house.

(2)

- The supervisor has never had to fire an employee.
- He was fired because he was caught stealing.
- The board of directors voted to fire the president of the company.

Safety/Survival



Fish



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the fingertips of the right "B" hand, palm facing body, to the inside wrist of the "B" hand, palm right and fingers pointing forward. Move both hands forward in position, wiggling the left fingers as they move.

Hints/Origin: Shows a fish swimming through water.

Definition: (noun) an animal that swims and lives in the water

Sample Sentences:

- I will have a fish sandwich and applesauce.
- This fish tastes good.
- I had fish for lunch.
- We caught some fish in the lake.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Fix



Same Sign for:

Description: Repeatedly hit the back side of the right "A" wrist against the inside of the left "A" wrist.

Hints/Origin: Putting the parts of something together.

Definition: (verb) to mend; to repair

Sample Sentences:

- Please fix my watch today.
- The repairman came to fix the copier.
- It's easy to fix a mistake on the computer.

Around the House, On the Job

✱

Floor



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both "B" hands side by side, palms facing down. Separate smoothly outward.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the part of the room people walk on

Sample Sentences:

- After dinner, I sweep the kitchen floor.
- The baby fell down on the floor.
- The floor of my living room has grey carpeting.

Around the House



Flower



Same Sign for:

Description: Place fingertips of the right "And" hand under one nostril, then under the other.

Hints/Origin: As if smelling a flower.

Definition: (noun) the colored part of a plant that attracts bees and then produces fruit

Sample Sentences:

- Cherry trees are covered with flowers in the Spring.
- She picked flowers from her garden.
- Tulips are my favorite flower.

Adult Day Care

✱

Go



Same Sign for:

Description: With both extended index fingers pointing up in front of the waist, palms facing out and left hand closer to the body than the right, flick the wrists to point both fingers forward.

Hints/Origin: Something going away from the body.

Definition: (verb) to move along; to move away; to leave

Sample Sentences:

- Let's go to town.
- Where did he go.?
- What time do you go to work?
- Don't go yet.

Common Signs, Health/Hospital

✱

For



Same Sign for:

Description: Point toward right temple with right index finger; then, dip forward in a "J" movement until index finger is pointing forward.

Definition: (preposition) showing how something is used, why it is given, who gets something, or how long something happens

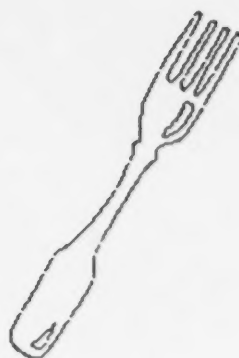
Sample Sentences:

- We will use this room for the party.
- I'm giving my mother perfume for her birthday.
- These flowers are for you.
- We are going away for three weeks.

Common Signs

✱

Fork



Same Sign for:

Description: With right "W" hand, fingers pointing left, and with left hand open, palm right, fingers pointing out, tap right "W" fingertips against left palm and repeat.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a tool with prongs and a handle, used to pick up and eat food

Sample Sentences:

- Do not eat with your hands. Use a fork.
- Twist the spaghetti on your fork.
- Use the small fork to eat your salad.

Containers/Utensils

* Fourth of July



Same Sign for:

Description: Spell J-U-L-Y. Then, sign fourth with "4" hand, palm forward. Swing hand inward until palm is facing body.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) July 4 - the day for flags, parades, and fireworks

Sample Sentences:

- We hang a flag at home on the Fourth of July.
- The Fourth of July fireworks are beautiful.
- I felt a big boom from the Fourth of July fireworks.

Holidays

*

Freeze



Same Sign for: Frozen, Frost, Ice

Description: Keeping both "claw" hands, palm down, in front of body, draw fingers and thumbs inward toward palms.

Hints/Origin: A stiff, frozen position

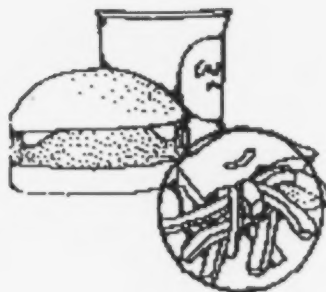
Definition: (verb) to become hard from the cold

Sample Sentences:

- We freeze water to make ice cubes.
- They will freeze the meat.
- This cold weather will freeze the flowers.

Fast Food/Restaurants

* French Fries



Same Sign for:

Description: Make an "F" twice in front of body, moving hand slightly right.

Hints/Origin:

Initialized sign for both words.

Definition: (noun) potato strips fried in oil

Sample Sentences:

- I want french fries and pop.
- My favorite lunch is a hamburger with french fries.
- I need ketchup for my french fries.

Fast Food/Restaurants

✱

Friday



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "F" hand, palm facing body, in a small circle. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the day after Thursday

Sample Sentences:

- My work must be done by Friday, before the weekend.
- I stay up late Friday night and sleep late Saturday.
- After working all week, I'm tired Friday night.

Time/Schedule

✱

Friend



Same Sign for:

Description: Hook right index finger down over the upturned left bent index finger. Repeat the action in reverse.

Hints/Origin: A close relationship.

Definition: (noun) a person you know well and like a lot

Sample Sentences:

- Sue is a good friend of mine.
- I tell my best friend all my secrets.
- She went to a movie with a friend.
- I have a lot of friends at work.
- She is my boss and good friend.
- My friend told me about the job.

Common Signs, People

✱

Fruit



Same Sign for:

Description: With the tip of the index finger and thumb of the "F" hand on the right cheek, twist forward repeatedly.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) part of a bush, tree, or vine that can be eaten

Sample Sentences:

- Apples, oranges, and peaches are my favorite fruits.
- There are cherries, pineapple, and melon in the fruit cocktail.
- Fresh fruit is a good dessert.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

* Frustrated



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the back of the open hand, palm facing out, back to in front of mouth. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Coming to an obstacle.

Definition: (adjective) discouraged; disappointed

Sample Sentences:

- She is frustrated, because there is too little time to finish.
- The frustrated manager worked hard, but did not get a raise.
- The customer was frustrated from waiting too long.

Feelings

✱

Full



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) The right flat hand, palm down, brushes inward across the left "S" hand, palm facing body, knuckles pointing right. (2) The right hand, palm down, moves from mid-chest to below chin, touching bottom of chin with back of hand.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (1) *computer use:* (adjective) without room; having no more space; *other use:* complete; having no more space: (2) full of food; ate too much

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- The bus was so full that I couldn't get on.
- The box is full of candy.
- You need a new disk. This one is full.
- When computer memory is full, the computer slows down.

(2)

- I ate too much dinner. Now, I am full.
- I am too full to eat dessert.
- He ate two whole pizzas. He is too full to eat any more.

Common Signs, Computers



Girl



Same Sign for:

Description: Form a right "A" hand, palm facing left. Then, drag tip of thumb down the cheek along jawline.

Hints/Origin: Indicates a girl's bonnet string.

Definition: (noun) a female child

Sample Sentences:

- I take my little girl to day care before work.
- She works in the girls' dress department.
- The girl wants to be a doctor when she grows up.

People

*

Give



Same Sign for: Hand to

Description: Hold right hand palm up, thumb touching fingertips close to right side of waist, move hand out toward the right in an arc.

Hints/Origin: Mime holding something in the hand and giving it away.

Definition: (verb) to offer something to a person; to pass a gift to someone

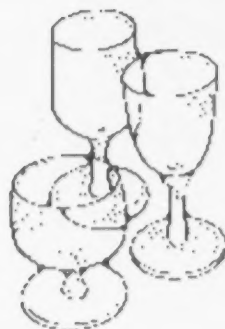
Sample Sentences:

- My employer will give me a raise if I work hard.
- Please give me some paper.
- I will give you a pencil.

Common Signs, Mail Room



Glass



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "C" shape, palm facing left, and with left hand open, palm up, fingers pointing right, put edge of right little finger on left palm. Then, raise right hand up slightly.

Hints/Origin:

Defintion: (noun) a container for water, milk, ice tea, and other cold liquids; something to drink from

Sample Sentences:

- You should drink six glasses of water a day.
- The waitress put glasses on the table.
- I drink a glass of milk before I go to bed.

Containers/Utensils

✱

Go



Same Sign for:

Description: With both extended index fingers pointing up in front of the waist, palms facing out and left hand closer to the body than the right, flick the wrists to point both fingers forward.

Hints/Origin: Something going away from the body.

Definition: (verb) to move along; to move away; to leave

Sample Sentences:

- Let's go to town.
- Where did he go.?
- What time do you go to work?
- Don't go yet.

Common Signs, Health/Hospital

✱

Go to it



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with right index finger pointing forward. Move straight across body until pointing left with a deliberate movement.

Hints/Origin: As in pointing to someone and motioning for him to move in a specified direction.

Definition:

Sample Sentences:

- This is your first day on the job. Go to it!
- Here's today's work. Go to it.
- You have a lot of work to do. Go to it.

On the Job

✱

Go With



Same Sign for: Accompany

Description: Place both "A" hands together in front of body, palms facing each other. Then, move hands forward several inches.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to accompany

Sample Sentences:

- Go with George. He will show you what to do.
- I don't want to go with John tomorrow.
- Let's go with Mary Ann to the mall.

On the Job

✱

Good



Same Sign for: Well

Description: Staring with the fingertips of the open hand near the lips, move the hand away and down from the mouth. Optional: As the hand moves away, the back of the hand lands on the upturned left palm.

Hints/Origin: Something is tasted and presented as tasting good.

Definition: (adjective) well done; having high quality

Sample Sentences:

- He has good health.
- He is a good football player.
- He is a good worker.
- He had a good interview.
- Your suggestions are good.

Common Signs, Directions/Reinforcement, Health/Hospital, On the Job

* Good Morning



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the fingertips of the right open hand, palm facing chin, down and away from the mouth. Then, bring the right hand upward from waist level, palm facing up, with the fingertips of the left open hand in the crook of the right elbow.

Hints/Origin: The sign for "good" plus the sign for "morning".

Definition: (phrase) a greeting used in the morning

Sample Sentences:

- Good morning. May I help you?
- My boss always says, "Good morning" to me.
- Good morning. Here's your coffee.

Common Phrases

✱

Goodbye



Same Sign for:

Description: Bend the fingers of the open right hand, palm facing forward, up and down repeatedly.

Hints/Origin: Mime waving good-bye.

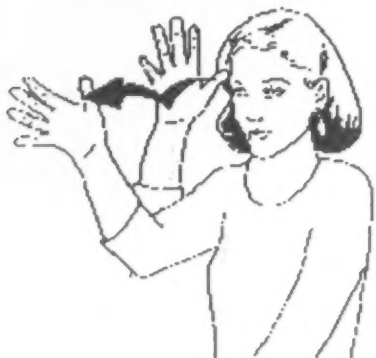
Definition: (interjection) a polite word used when leaving someone

Sample Sentences:

- Goodbye, I'll see you after lunch.
- I have to get back to work. Goodbye.
- Goodbye. Have a nice weekend.

Common Signs

* Grandfather



Same Sign for:

Description: With the thumb of the right "5" hand, palm left, on the right side of the forehead, move outward in two small arcs.

Hints/Origin: The arcs stand for generations passing.

Definition: (noun) the father of one's father or mother

Sample Sentences:

- My grandfather is 90 years old.
- When my grandfather retired, he traveled with my grandmother.
- My father and grandfather work together.

Family Relationships

* Grandmother



Same Sign for:

Description: With the thumb of the right "5" hand, palm left, on the right side of the chin, move outward in two small arcs

Hints/Origin: The arcs stand for generations passing.

Definition: (noun) the mother of one's father or mother

Sample Sentences:

- My grandmother babysits when my parents are at work.
- My grandmother works at my father's store
- My grandmother volunteers at the School for the Deaf.

Family Relationships

*

Grapes



Same Sign for:

Description: Put fingertips of right "claw" hand, palm down, on the back of bent left hand, palm down. Move right hand down the left hand with several small hops.

Hints/Origin: Suggests a number of grapes in a bunch.

Definition: (noun) a small round fruit that grows in bunches on a vine

Sample Sentences:

- I like grape jelly.
- Raisins are dried grapes.
- Grape juice is purple.
- I like to eat seedless grapes as a snack.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

*

Gravy



Same Sign for: Grease, Greasy, Oil

Description: Grab the open left hand, palm facing body, from underneath with the thumb and middle finger of the right hand. Drag the right hand downward. Bring the thumb and middle finger together.

Hints/Origin: Grease dripping off some meat.

Definition: (noun) sauce for meat and vegetables

Sample Sentences:

- I want gravy on my potatoes.
- Do you want gravy on your meat?
- This gravy tastes good.

Fast Food/Restaurants

*

Green



Same Sign for:

Description: Shake the "G" hand.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign

Definition: (adjective) the color of leaves, peas, and grass

Sample Sentences:

- He waters the grass to keep it green.
- In the fall, the green leaves change to yellow and red.
- The green light means "Go".

Colors

✱

Gun



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the right "L" hand, index finger pointing forward and palm left, forward in a small arc from the waist.

Hints/Origin: Mime holding a toy gun.

Definition: (noun) a weapon that shoots bullets

Sample Sentences:

- The security guard in our office carries a gun.
- The bank robber pointed a gun at the teller.
- The night watchman has a gun.

Safety/Survival

✱

Hair



Same Sign for:

Description: Hold a bit of hair between the index finger and thumb of the "F" hand.

Hints/Origin:

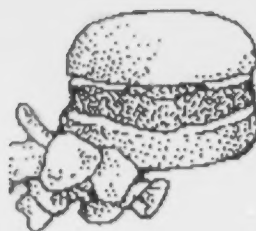
Definition: (noun) a thread like growth from the skin of people and from the bodies of animals

Sample Sentences:

- I am going to have my hair cut.
- All my brothers have black hair. Mine is blonde.
- There is dog hair on my furniture.

Common Signs, Health/Hospital

* Hamburger



Same Sign for:

Description: Lightly clasp hands, right over left and then left over right.

Hints/Origin: Making a hamburger patty.

Definition: (noun) a sandwich made of ground beef on a bun

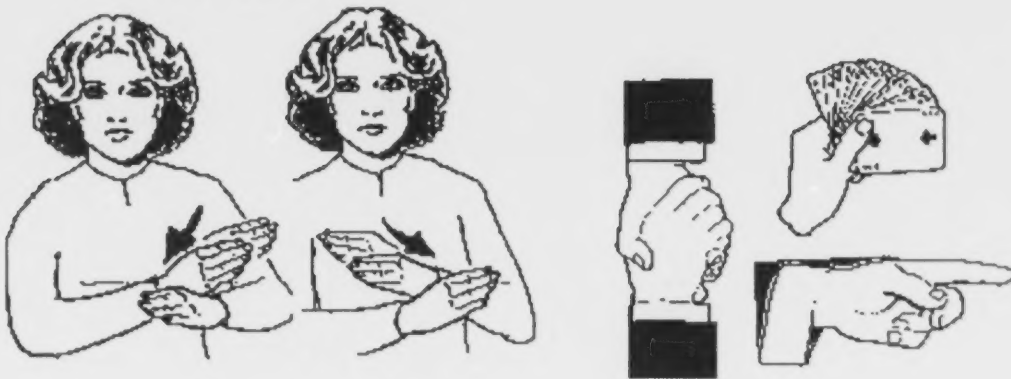
Sample Sentences:

- May I have a hamburger and fries please.
- I like ketchup on my hamburger.
- The hamburgers are great here.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket



Hands



Same Sign for:

Description: Stroke back of left hand with right hand, and reverse.

Hints/Origin: Indicates the hands up to the wrists.

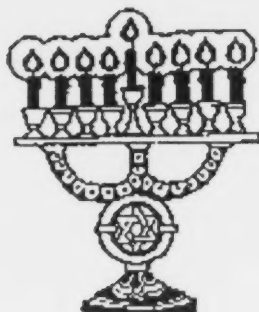
Definition: (noun) the part of the body, at the end of the arm , with fingers used for holding things

Sample Sentences:

- She wore gloves to keep her hands warm.
- The people clapped their hands to the music.
- The basketball player has very big hands.

Health/Hospital

* Hanukkah



Same Sign for:

Description: With both bent "4" hands, palms facing body and little fingers touching, move hands apart and then up.

Hints/Origin: Shows the shape of a Menorah.

Definition: (noun) the Jewish Festival of Lights - a time for candles, presents, and potato pancakes.

Sample Sentences:

- Hanukkah lasts eight days and eight nights.
- I get presents for eight days on Hanukkah.
- We light the Hanukkah candles for eight nights.

Holidays

✱

Happen



Same Sign for: Occur

Description: Place both hands in "1" shape, palms up, fingertips pointing forward. Flip hands over with palms down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to take place

Sample Sentences:

- Three car accidents happened today.
- The police came to see what happened.
- The robbery happened at 3:00.

Police

*

Happy



Same Sign for: Glad, Joy

Description: Bring the flat palm, fingers pointing left, upward and outward on the chest.

Hints/Origin: The upward movement shows the "up" mood.

Definition: (adjective) feeling good; having a good time; glad; pleased; content

Sample Sentences:

- I am happy that you will be working here.
- He feels happy that business is good.
- A happy customer will return.

Feelings

*

Hard



Same Sign for: Difficult

Description: Strike the side of the middle finger of the right bent "V" hand on the index finger side of the left bent "V" hand, both palms toward body.

Hints/Origin: Left hand represents a hard rock.

Definition: (adjective) difficult; not easy

Sample Sentences:

- Road construction is hard work.
- It is hard to learn chemistry.
- My boss must make a lot of hard decisions.

On the Job

* Hard of Hearing



Same Sign for:

Description: Bounce right "H" hand, palm left, twice from left to right.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (adjective) mildly hearing-impaired

Sample Sentences:

- Please speak louder. I am hard of hearing.
- He turned the TV up, because he is hard of hearing.
- John is hard of hearing and wears two hearing aids.

Common Signs, Police

✱

Have



Same Sign for: Possess

Description: Bring the fingertips of both bent hands against the chest, palms facing the body.

Hints/Origin: Bringing something you own in toward yourself.

Definition: (verb) to own; to possess; to hold

Sample Sentences:

- I have a blue car.
- Do you have a job?
- Lori will have a lot of work to do.
- I have time to see you now.
- I have a good book here.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

✱

He



Same Sign for: She

Description: Point the index finger of the "1" hand diagonally to the right, or toward the person to whom you are referring.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) *he*: referring to a male; *she*: referring to a female

Sample Sentences:

- He is a very old man.
- He works late every day.
- If he comes, I will go.
- She has brown hair and brown eyes.
- She is a young girl.
- My neighbor teaches. She loves her job.

Pronouns

✱

Hearing



Same Sign for: Say, Speak

Description: With index finger of right "1" hand, palm down and index finger pointing left, make a small outward circle just below the lower lip.

Hints/Origin: People who are hearing also talk a lot.

Definition: (adjective) having the ability to hear

Sample Sentences:

- Our hearing employees are learning sign language.
- The hearing staff can understand the deaf staff.
- Hearing people and deaf people can work well together.

Common Signs

* Hearing Aid



Same Sign for:

Description: Move bent index finger of right hand toward head and hook over ear. Repeat movement. (Note: Single movement is used for verb - i.e. to put on a hearing aid.)

Hints/Origin: Hands hooked over ear signifies putting on the ear level aid

Definition: (noun) a small, electronic device which is worn by most hearing-impaired people and which amplifies sounds

Sample Sentences:

- Never wear your hearing aid when you swim or take a bath.
- Next week, I will buy batteries for my hearing aid.
- I broke my hearing aid playing football.
- Put on your hearing aid before you go to work.

Health/Hospital

✱

Heart



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch extended middle finger of the "5" hand, palm toward body, to middle of the chest several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the part of the body that pumps blood

Sample Sentences:

- The doctor listened to my heart.
- Exercise is good for your heart.
- Eating right is important for a healthy heart.

Health/Hospital

* Heart Attack



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the center of the chest with the bent middle finger of the "5" hand, palm toward body. Slam the downturned right palm on the top of the left "S" hand, palm right.

Hints/Origin: "Heart" plus having an attack.

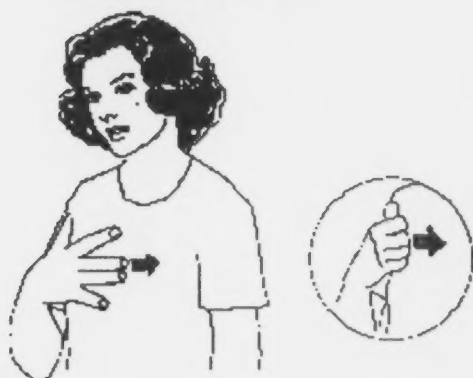
Definition: (noun) a condition when the heart stops beating for a short time

Sample Sentences:

- Exercise and good nutrition prevent heart attacks.
- Smoking can cause heart attacks.
- Chest pain may be a heart attack.

Health/Hospital

* Heartbeat



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the center of the chest with the extended middle finger to the "5" hand, palm facing body. Change to "A" hand shape and tap on the chest several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the pounding of the heart

Sample Sentences:

- He has a strong heartbeat.
- He was scared, and he felt each heartbeat pounding.
- Exercise increases the rate of your heartbeat.

Health/Hospital

✱

Heavy



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both slightly bent open "claw" hands below chest level, palms up. Drop hands slightly.

Hints/Origin: Mime holding something heavy.

Definition: (adjective) weighing a lot

Sample Sentences:

- A car is heavy, but a feather is light.
- The desk was too heavy for one person to lift.
- He lifts heavy weights in the gym.

Shape/Size/Quantity

✱

Hello



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with index finger of the "B" hand at the right temple, palm forward and fingers pointing up. Bring the hand outward to the right with a deliberate movement. You can also fingerspell "hi".

Hints/Origin: Saluting someone; a greeting.

Definition: a greeting, saying "Hi" to someone

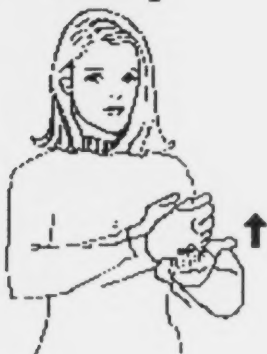
Sample Sentences:

- Mr. Jones says, "Hello."
- Say "Hello" to your mother.
- We say "Hello" to everyone.

Common Signs, Health/Hospital, Police

✱

Help



Same Sign for: Assist, Aid

Description: Place the right "a" hand, little finger side of thumb up, on the upturned left palm. Raise both hands from waist level toward shoulder level.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to give a person something he/she needs; to do something useful

(noun) aid; assistance

Sample Sentences:

- My brother will help me fix my car.
- Can I help you?
- Do you need help?
- If you need help, ask your supervisor.
- Your job is to help the customer.

Adult Day Care, Common Signs, Health/Hospital, On the Job

✱

Here



Same Sign for:

Description: Move both upturned hands back and forth in opposite directions in front of waist. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Something that is directly before you.

Definition: (adverb) in this place; at this place

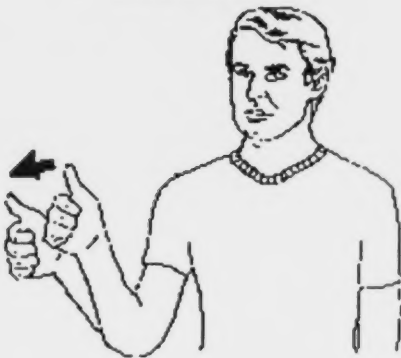
Sample Sentences:

- The mail is here.
- Here are the puppies you wanted.
- Put the envelopes over here.
- He came here at noon.
- Put the bottles here, and put the boxes there.

Common Signs

✱

Himself



Same Sign for: Herself, Itself

Description: With the thumb of the "A" hand pointing forward, palm left, move the hand forward and slightly to the left with two short strokes. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) one's own person; a word used to emphasize one person or thing

Sample Sentences:

- He went to the concert by himself.
- He worked by himself when everyone went home.
- She drives herself to work.
- She did it herself.
- The computer is on a special desk by itself.

Pronouns

✱

Hire



Same Sign for: Invite, Welcome

Description: Swing the upturned curved right hand, right arm extended from in front of body, inward toward the waist in an arc.

Hints/Origin: Bringing something in close to you.

Definition: (verb) to offer someone a job; to pay a person for working

Sample Sentences:

- They will hire three new employees.
- The company will hire good workers.
- They hired three deaf people.
- I hope they will hire me.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

*

His



Same Sign for: Her, Its

Description: Face the open hand, fingers together, forward but slightly to the right.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) *his*: belonging to a male; *her*: belonging to a female; *its*: belonging to a place or thing

Sample Sentences:

- He will get his raise next month.
- The manager fired his assistant.
- This is his office.
- Her job is very difficult.
- The artist showed us her painting.
- The dog chewed its bone.

Pronouns

✱

Hit



Same Sign for: Strike, Punch

Description: Strike the left index finger, pointing up and palm out, with the knuckles of the right "S" hand, palm toward body.

Hints/Origin: Striking something.

Definition: (verb) to knock

Sample Sentences:

- The cop hit the thief when he tried to run away.
- The plumber hit his head on a pipe.
- I was late because someone hit my car.

Safety/Survival

✱

Hold



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring both "S" hands, right over left and palms toward body, in toward the chest, a short distance.

Hints/Origin: Mime holding on to something.

Definition: (verb) to have in your hand

Sample Sentences:

- It's windy. Hold onto your hat.
- Please hold my glasses when I swim.
- She held the box in both hands.

Around the House



Holiday



Same Sign for: Vacation

Description: With both hands in "5" shape, angling toward each other, tap thumbs beneath shoulders twice.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a day when you do not go to work or school

Sample Sentences:

- Christmas is my favorite holiday.
- I can sleep late on holidays.
- Thanksgiving, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Christmas are holidays.

Holidays, Interview/Forms



Home



Same Sign for:

Description: With the fingertips and thumb together, touch the lower cheek close to the right corner of the mouth and then the upper cheek close to the ear.

Hints/Origin: Indicates that home is a place to eat and sleep.

Definition: (noun) a place where you live; house/apartment in which you live

Sample Sentences:

- He stayed home because he didn't feel well.
- Will you be at home on Friday?
- When do you leave home in the morning?
- My home is an apartment in Pittsburgh.

Adult Day Care, Around the House, Common Signs

✱

Hospital



Same Sign for: Infirmary

Description: Draw a small cross on upper left arm with right "H" fingers.

Hints/Origin: A cross on the sleeve, as in the Red Cross.

Definition: (noun) a place where the sick and injured are taken care of

Sample Sentences:

- The ambulance took the man to the hospital from the accident.
- I stayed in the hospital for three days after the operation.
- I went to the hospital when I broke my arm.

Health/Hospital

✱

House



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the middle fingertips of angled downturned flat hands, face level. Separate hands downward out at an angle to shoulder width. Then, move hands straight down, palms facing.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a building in which to live

Sample Sentences:

- Do you live in a house or apartment?
- The house I live in is very old.
- My house has four bedrooms.

Around the House

✱

How



Same Sign for:

Description: With the fingertips of both bent hands pointing to the chest, palms facing the body and knuckles touching each other, move the fingers up and out until both hands are extended palms up, fingertips pointing forward.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb) a word used to show or ask the way something is done

Sample Sentences:

- How do you make banana bread?
- How do you get to the library from here?
- How do I get to the business office?
- Do you know how to type?
- How do you fill out this form?

Common Signs, Questions

* How Are You



Same Sign for:

Description: With the fingertips of both bent hands pointing to the chest, palms facing the body and the knuckles touching each other, move the fingers up and out. End with the right extended finger pointing forward.

Hints/Origin: "How" plus "you". It is not necessary to sign "are".

Definition: (phrase) a phrase that asks if you are all right or not

Sample Sentences:

- I heard you were sick. How are you now?
- I'm fine, thank you. How are you?
- I'm sorry about the accident. How are you?

Common Phrases

* How Many



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with both hands in "S" shape, palms facing body. With an upward movement, open hands quickly, ending with "5" handshapes.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb phrase) phrase used to ask: "What amount?"; "What is the number?"

Sample Sentences:

- How many students are in your class?
- How many tickets do you want?
- How many pizzas should I order for 12 people?
- How many rooms are in your house?
- How many people are on the job?

Common Signs, Questions, Supermarket

* How Much



Same Sign for:

Description: Hold both "S" hands in front of chest, palms up. Push hands straight up, opening fingers to "5" position

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (phrase) what amount

Sample Sentences:

- How much sugar is in this cake?
- How much did it cost?
- How much did you earn last year?

Questions

✱

Hungry



Same Sign for: Starved

Description: Bring the fingertips and thumb of the right "C" hand, palm toward chest and knuckles pointing left, downward from near the throat to the chest.

Hints/Origin: Shows an empty passage to the stomach.

Definition: (adjective) wanting or needing food

Sample Sentences:

- I eat breakfast so I won't be hungry at work.
- I bring a snack to work, because I get hungry at 3:00.
- I didn't have time to eat lunch, so I am very hungry now.

Adult Day Care, Feelings



Hurry



Same Sign for: Rush

Description: Move both "H" hands, palms facing each other and fingers pointing forward, in a bouncing movement up and down while moving forward.

Hints/Origin:

Initialized sign moving forward quickly.

Definition: (verb) to move quickly

Sample Sentences:

- We will hurry to finish on time.
- If I hurry, I can get done in an hour.
- I must hurry to make the deadline.

Around the House, Health/Hospital, On the Job, Safety/Survival



Hurt



Same Sign for: Pain, Ache, Sore

Description: Jab the extended index fingertips toward each other in front of body several times without making contact with each other, palms facing chest. Note: can be signed near the point of pain.

Hints/Origin: Shows the piercing pain

Definition: (verb) to have pain; to give pain

Sample Sentences:

- If you hurt yourself at work, go to the infirmary.
- She called in sick because she hurt her back.
- My eyes hurt from staring at a computer all day.

Adult Day Care, Feelings, Health/Hospital, Safety/Survival

✱

Husband



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "C" hand from near the right side of the forehead, palm forward, smoothly down to clasp the upturned left hand held in front of body.

Hints/Origin: Man plus marry; a man who is married.

Definition: (noun) a married man

Sample Sentences:

- I have been married to my husband for 5 years.
- My husband and I have three children.
- Her husband helped me find a job.

Family Relationships

✱

I



Same Sign for: Me

Description: Point the index finger to the center of chest.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) used by the speaker when talking about himself or herself

Sample Sentences:

- I can do it!
- I want some coffee.
- I will be late for work.
- Please order supplies for me.
- Please buy one for me.
- Give me the newspaper.

Common Signs, Pronouns

✱

I'm Fine



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the "5" hand, palm left, forward with a flick of the wrist from the right side of the chest. You may leave the thumb in place on the chest and wiggle fingers to mean "super fine".

Hints/Origin: This is the sign for fine. It is not necessary to sign "I'm".

Definition: (phrase) I'm all right; nothing is wrong

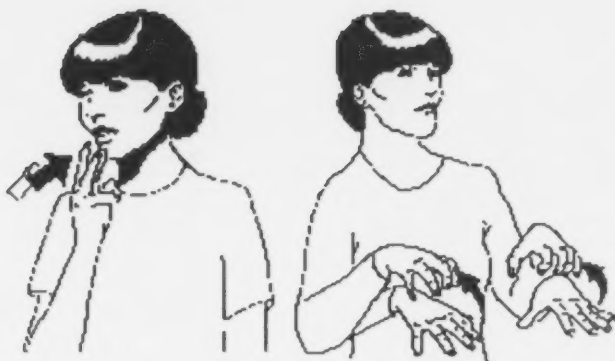
Sample Sentences:

- The car was ruined, but I'm fine.
- My family has the flu, but I'm fine.
- I'm fine. How are you?

Common Phrases

✱

Ice



Same Sign for: Frost, Freeze, Frozen

Description: First, sign "Water". With right "W" hand, palm facing left, fingers up, tap chin with index finger. Then, sign frozen. Quickly bring both extended "5" hands, palms down, in toward body while changing hands to claw position. Note: Can just fingerspell "i-c-e".

Hints/Origin:

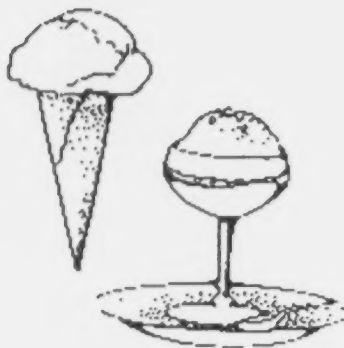
Definition: (noun) frozen water

Sample Sentences:

- It is hard to drive with ice on the roads.
- The cold ice feels good on my sore knee.
- We need a lot of ice for the iced tea.

Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants

* Ice Cream



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "S" shape, palm facing left, hold hand in front of mouth and move it down several times as if licking an ice cream cone.

Hints/Origin: As if eating an ice cream cone.

Definition: (noun) a frozen food made of milk, sugar, and flavoring

Sample Sentences:

- I had cake and ice cream on my birthday.
- I want two scoops of ice cream.
- He made a hot fudge sundae with vanilla ice cream.

Desserts/Snacks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Idea



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "I" finger from the right side of the forehead, palm toward face, upward and outward with a deliberate movement.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign showing an idea coming out of the head.

Definition: (noun) something you think of or plan in your mind; a thought; a plan of the mind

Sample Sentences:

- We will use your idea.
- The manager likes your idea.
- The new Governor had some good ideas.
- That's a bad idea.

Directions/Reinforcement

* Important



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "F" shape side by side in front of waist, palms up, move hands up and around, ending with palms down, thumbs touching.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) significant; valuable

Sample Sentences:

- Do not interrupt me when I am at an important meeting.
- It is important to give your social security number to the business office.
- These important papers go in the safe.

Mail Room

✱

Improve



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the little finger side of the right open hand, palm upward and left, up the outside of the left arm, palm down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to make better; to become better

Same Sign for:

- You must improve your grades.
- His health is improving.
- The runner improved his time.

Directions/Reinforcement

✱

In



Same Sign for: Contain in

Description: With right hand in "AND" shape, palm in, fingers pointing down, and left hand in "C" shape, palm facing right, put right fingertips into left "C" and repeat.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (preposition) a word showing place or location of one thing "within" or "inside" another thing

Sample Sentences:

- The paper is in my desk drawer.
- I'll see you in my office.
- The instructions are in the box.
- The information is in the computer.

Common Signs, Computers

✱

Indian



Same Sign for: Native American

Description: Touch index finger and thumb of right "F" hand to right lower cheek (near mouth) and then to upper cheek (near ear).

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a native American; an American Indian

Sample Sentences:

- Some Indians live on Reservations.
- Most Indians live in the West.
- Cowboys and Indians used to fight.

People

* Information



Same Sign for: Inform you, Inform them

Description: Begin with the right fingertips of the "O" hand touching the forehead and the left flat "O" hand held lower and forward. Move both hands forward simultaneously ending with both palms up.

Hints/Origin: Taking information from the head and sharing it with others.

Definition: (noun) facts; knowledge

Sample Sentences:

- The newspaper has sports, business, and weather information.
- Fill out the information on the application.
- The librarian can help you get the information you need.

Mail Room

✱

Inside



Same Sign for: In

Description: Start with right hand in "AND" shape, palm in, fingers pointing down and left hand in "C" shape, palm facing right. Put right fingertips into left "C" and repeat.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb) within: (preposition) within

Sample Sentences:

- The paper is inside my desk drawer.
- The instructions are inside the box.
- I'll see you inside, in the office.

Mail Room

* Interpret



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the thumbs and fingers of both "F" hands, palms facing each other. Twist the wrists in opposite directions with alternating movements toward and away from the body.

Hints/Origin: Turning one language into another.

Definition: (verb) to translate from one language to another (i.e. English to Sign Language)

Sample Sentences:

- I need someone to interpret the lecture.
- Please interpret the announcements.
- Please interpret the meeting for our deaf employees.

Common Signs, Health/Hospital, Interview/Forms, On the Job

* Interpreter



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in the "F" handshape, touch tips of index fingers and thumbs together. Twist hands back and forth alternately. Follow with "person" marker. (With hands facing each other, bring hands down sides of body in a parallel movement.)

Hints/Origin:

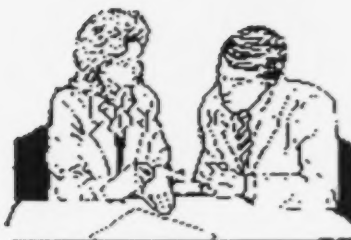
Definition: (noun) a person who translates from one language to another

Sample Sentences:

- The interpreter was very skilled.
- Mary is an interpreter for our deaf employees.
- My sister is my interpreter.
- I need an interpreter to understand my boss.

Common Signs, Health/Hospital, Interview/Forms, On the Job

* Interview



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "I" shape, palms facing each other, place hands on either side of chin and alternately move back and forth.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a meeting, usually face to face, to discuss something special (usually a job): (verb) to meet and talk with someone in order to get specific information

Sample Sentences:

- The interview took two hours.
- I have a job interview on Friday.
- Reporters from the newspaper will interview the football player.
- The supervisors will interview their workers.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

✱

Jelly



Same Sign for: Jam

Description: Flick the right little fingertip on the upturned left palm with an upward "J" motion several times.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign. Spreading jelly on bread.

Definition: (noun) fruit juice boiled with sugar and cooled until it is jelled

Sample Sentences:

- I like peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.
- I put butter and jelly on toast.
- Some doughnuts have strawberry jelly inside.
- Grape jam has whole grapes in it.

Desserts/Snacks

✱

Job



Same Sign for:

Description: Spell "J" then "B" -- ending with "B" palm facing body.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) work usually done for money

Sample Sentences:

- I am looking for a job.
- Why do you want this job?
- He will do the job for \$500.00

Interview/Forms, On the Job

✱

Judge



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with both hands in "F" shape in front of body, palms facing , fingers pointing out. Raise and lower hands in short, alternate movements.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to decide something

Sample Sentences:

- The policeman judged that the driver was drunk.
- He judged the winner at the race.
- No one can tell you. You must judge for yourself.

Health/Hospital, Police

✱

Juice



Same Sign for:

Description: Quickly make a "J" twice.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the liquid in fruits and vegetables

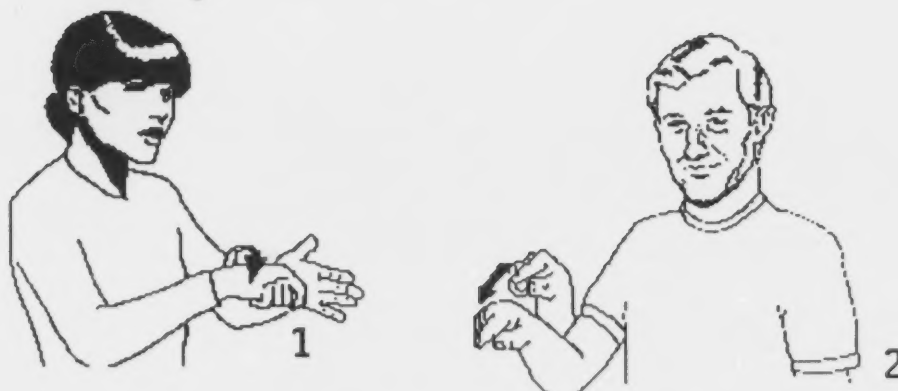
Sample Sentences:

- I squeeze oranges every morning for fresh orange juice.
- Use the juice of two lemons in that cake.
- I made punch with real fruit juice.

Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Key



Same Sign for: (1) Lock

Description: (1) Twist the knuckle of the right "X" hand into the open left palm, facing right. (2) Start with right "1" hand, finger pointing down. Press down as if depressing a key on a keyboard.

Hints/Origin: (1) Turning the key in a lock.

Definition: (1) (noun) a piece of metal that opens and closes a lock
(2) a letter, number or symbol you press on a computer

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- I cannot get in my office without a key.
- The same key opens my car door and trunk.
- I need the key for my suitcase.

(2)

- Press the RETURN key on the computer.
- The long key is the space bar.
- The keys of the computer look like the keys of a typewriter.

Common Signs, Computers, Safety/Survival

✱

Kid



Same Sign for:

Description: Extend the index and little fingers of the right hand palm down. With index finger touching above upper lip, twist up and down.

Hints/Origin: Wiping a child's nose

Definition: (noun) a child

Sample Sentences:

- My kids like to visit their grandparents.
- I teach a nice group of kids.
- Those kids play ball every day.

People

✱

Kill



Same Sign for: Murder

Description: Push the extended right index finger, palm down, forward and down under the left downturned open palm.

Hints/Origin: Stabbing into someone.

Definition: (verb) to cause death

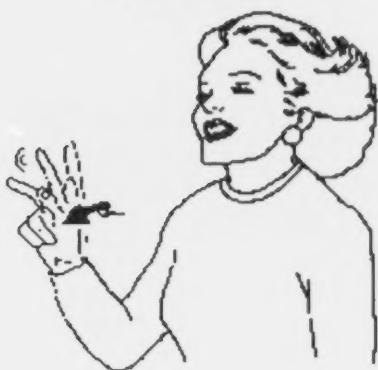
Sample Sentences:

- The angry man killed the poor woman.
- The exterminator kills the bugs in the office.
- The heat in my office killed my plants.
- The mouse trap killed the mouse.

Safety/Survival

✳

Kitchen



Same Sign for:

Description: Shake the "K" hand, shoulder level.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the room where food is cooked

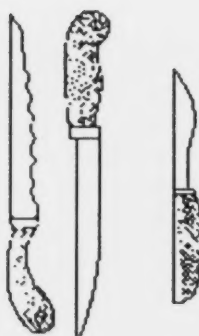
Sample Sentences:

- He washed the kitchen floor.
- They are cooking your hamburger in the kitchen.
- He got the food from the kitchen.

Around the House, Fast Food/Restaurants

✱

Knife



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in the "1" shape, slide right index finger along left index finger several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a tool used to cut food and other things. It is a sharp piece of metal with a handle.

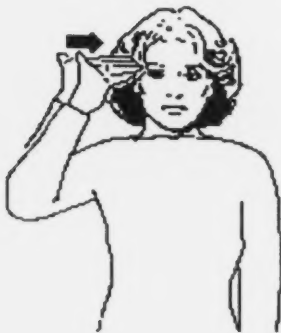
Sample Sentences:

- Do not cut yourself on the knife.
- He cut his meat with a knife.
- You need a sharp knife to cut that.

Containers/Utensils

✱

Know



Same Sign for: Knowledge

Description: Tap the fingertips of the bent hand to the temple, palm facing down.

Hints/Origin: Hand indicates that knowledge is in the brain.

Definition: (verb) to have the facts; to be sure; to be familiar with

Sample Sentences:

- Do you know how to ski?
- I know the answer.
- How do you know that?
- Do you know how to type?
- I knew him before he was the manager.
- Do you know how to file reports?

Common Signs

✱

Last



Same Sign for: End

Description: Bring the right extended little finger down, striking the left extended little finger, both palms facing body.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) coming after all others

Sample Sentences:

- The last person to leave must lock the office.
- This is the last page of the report. Then I'm finished typing.
- She was the last person in line.

Interview/Forms

✱

Late



Same Sign for: Not yet

Description: Move the downward extended right hand, elbow out and palm back, past the waist a few times.

Hints/Origin: Shows a past motion.

Definition: (adjective) after the time you need to be someplace (adverb) after the expected time; tardy

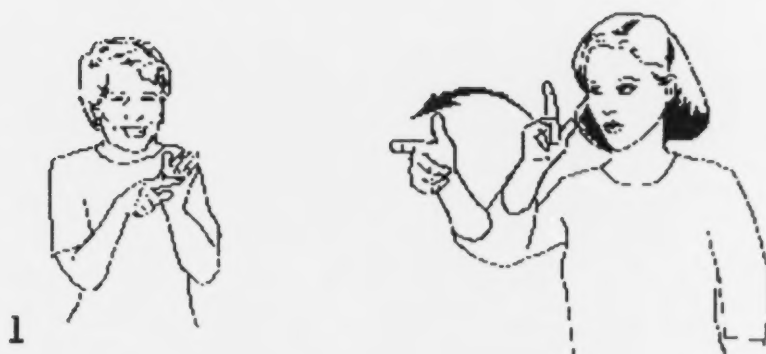
Sample Sentences:

- Why are you always late for work?
- I am late because there is a lot of traffic.
- It is not polite to be late for an appointment.

Common Signs, Time/Schedule

✱

Later



Same Sign for: After awhile

Description: (1.) With the thumb of the right "L" hand on the left palm (facing right), begin with index finger of "L" pointing up and turn until index is pointing forward. (2.) With right "L" hand shape just above right shoulder, palm forward, move hand forward in an arc while twisting "L" until index is pointing forward.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign in a future movement.

Definition: (now) after the usual time; after the present

Sample Sentences:

- He will come later.
- I'll do it now, because I have a meeting later.
- I can meet you later, after work.

On the Job

✱

Learn



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the downturned "5" right hand, palm facing down, from the upturned left palm upward toward the head, closing the thumb to the fingertips as the hand moves.

Hints/Origin: Taking information from the page and putting it on the head.

Definition: (verb) to find out; to find out how to do something

Sample Sentences:

- I would like to learn how to type.
- What did you learn in school today.
- Have you learned how to swim yet?
- I learned a lot during my training.
- We will learn about helping customers.
- It takes time to learn about business.

Common Signs, On the Job

✱

Leave



Same Sign for: (1) Depart

Description: (1) Draw both loose downturned "5" hands back toward the right shoulder changing hands into "A" shape as they approach right shoulder. (2) Place both "5" hands in front of body, palms facing right, right hand slightly above the left. Drop hands simultaneously as if setting something down.

Hints/Origin: (1) Something moving off into distance.

Definition: (verb) (1) to go away; to depart (2) to let remain

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- Everyone left the building for the fire drill.
- I leave work at 5:00.
- Please lock the door when you leave.

(2)

- Leave your dirty boots outside.
- Put the dishes in the dishwasher. Do not leave them in the sink.
- They left the children home.

Time/Schedule

✱

Left



Same Sign for: Remaining

Description: Start with right hand in "L" shape, palm out, index finger pointing up. Move hand from right to left in front of body.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign moving in "left" direction

Definition: (adjective) belonging to the side of of the less used hand:
(noun) (adverb) in the direction of the less used hand

Sample Sentences:

- The drug store is on the left side of the street.
- Turn left at the corner.
- The baseball player pitches left-handed.

Common Signs, Supermarket



Lemon



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the thumbtip of the "L" hand, palm left, on the chin.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign in the same position as "sour".

Definition: (noun) a sour yellow citrus fruit

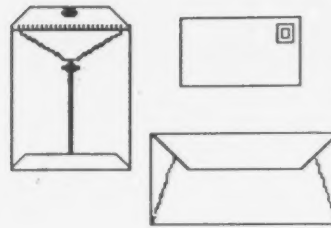
Sample Sentences:

- I like lemon in my tea.
- The yellow candy is a lemon drop.
- I make lemonade with lemons, water, and sugar.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Letter



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the thumb of the right "A" hand, palm facing left, from the lips downward to the thumbnail, palm of the left hand flat.

Hints/Origin: Mime licking a stamp and putting it on a letter.

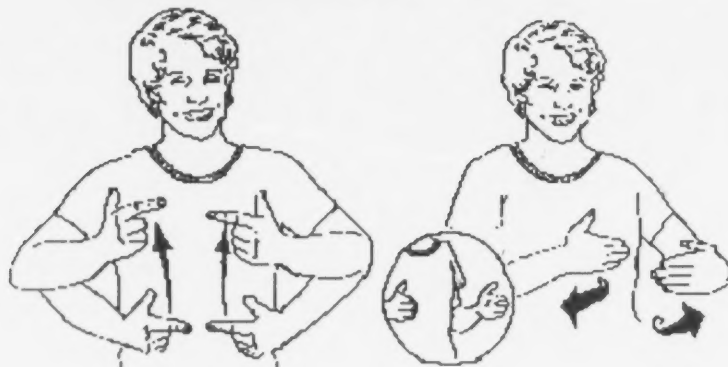
Definition: (noun) a message in writing, sent from one person to another

Sample Sentences:

- The mailman brought three letters for you.
- I received a letter from my friend Sally.
- Please mail this letter for me.
- I'm waiting for an important letter from Company X.
- Type this letter for me, please.
- Send this letter to Mr. Black.

Common Signs, Mail Room

* Living Room



Same Sign for:

Description: Move both "L" hands, palms facing body, right index finger pointing left, left index finger pointing right, up the middle of the body from waist to chest. Place both flat hands in front of body several inches apart, palms facing inward. Move hands to the sides, palms facing each other.

Hints/Origin: "Live" plus "Room"

Definition: (noun) a room for general family use

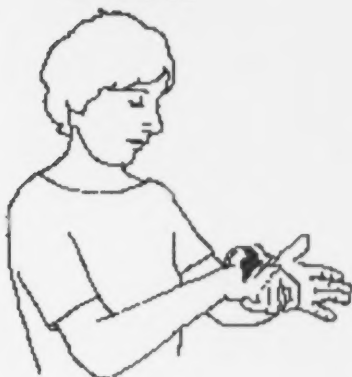
Sample Sentences:

- I watch TV in the living room.
- After dinner, we sit in the living room.
- I got a new couch for the living room.

Around the House

✱

Lock



Same Sign for:

Description: Twist right "A" hand in left palm, facing right.

Hints/Origin: Mime twisting a lock.

Definition: (noun) a way of fastening something (door, box, window, etc.); a way of closing something so it can only open with a key

Sample Sentences:

- Lock your money in a safe.
- This key opens the lock on your office door.
- The lock on the door is for your protection.

Safety/Survival

* Long Time



Same Sign for: Past, Ago, Long time ago

Description: Run the right "1" finger up the back of the extended left arm, beginning at wrist and moving up the arm.

Hints/Origin: Past movement.

Definition: (adverb phrase) happening in the past, several years ago

Sample Sentences:

- I started working here a long time ago, when I was younger.
- His line has been busy for a long time.
- A long time ago, we didn't have computers in the office.

Time/Schedule

✱

Look



1



2

Same Sign for: (1) Appearance, Face (2) Watch, Observe, Gaze

Description: (1) Make a counterclockwise circle around the face with the extended index finger, palm toward face. (2) Start with right "V" hand, fingers pointing toward eyes. Turn hand outward and away, fingers pointing toward viewed object

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (1) (verb) to seem or appear (2) (verb) to observe, gaze at, or watch

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- He looked tired at night.
- She looks younger than her sister.
- She looks pretty with her new haircut.

(2)

- He looked at his watch to see what time it was.
- She looked out the window at the birds.
- Look at the dress in the window.

Common Signs, Shape/Size/Quantity

✱

Lose



Same Sign for: Lost

Description: Start with both hands in "And" shape, palms in, fingertips touching. Move hands down and apart, ending with hands in "5" shape, palms down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to be unable to find; to have taken away

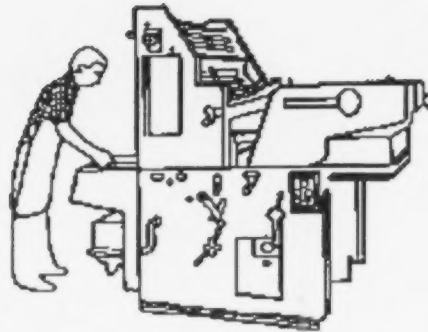
Sample Sentences:

- I lost my keys.
- Please don't lose that letter.
- Don't give Joe the money. He will lose it.

Police

✱

Machine



Same Sign for: Engine, Factory

Description: Loosely mesh the fingers of both curved "5" hands, thumbs extended up and palms toward body. Bend the wrists up and down, keeping the fingers loosely meshed with each other.

Hints/Origin: Shows the moving of the gears in machinery.

Definition: (noun) something with still and moving parts that work like a sewing machine or washing machine

Sample Sentences:

- If that machine breaks, you will have to wash dishes by hand.
- The factory is full of different machines.
- This machine sews shoes.

On the Job, Mail Room

✱

Mad



Same Sign for: Cross, Grouchy, Angry

Description: With the palm of the loose "5" hand in front of the face, bend the fingers down into a "claw" hand.

Hints/Origin: Shows bringing the facial features into an angry shape.

Definition: (adjective) very angry

Sample Sentences:

- My supervisor was mad because we didn't finish the job.
- I am mad because I didn't get a raise.
- If I don't get this job, I'll be mad.

Feelings

* Magazine



Same Sign for: Brochure, Pamphlet, Catalog, Manual

Description: With index finger and thumb of "G" hand, grab little finger edge of left open hand, palm facing body, and slide along outside edge of left hand.

Hints/Origin: Suggests thin book.

Definition: (noun) a thin book that comes out every week, month, or few months, usually with many pictures and advertisements

Sample Sentences:

- *Time* magazine comes out every week.
- I buy my favorite magazines at the supermarket.
- There a a lot of magazines for people who use personal computers.

Adult Day Care, Mail Room

✱

Mail



Same sign for: Letter

Description: Start with right hand in "10" shape, palm in, and left hand open in front of chest, palm at an angle facing right, fingers pointing out. Touch lips with right thumb. Then, move right hand down, and place right thumb on left palm.

Hints/Origin: As if bringing a stamp from mouth to hand.

Definition: (noun) letters, packages, etc.: (verb) to send through the post office

Sample Sentences:

- The mailman brings the mail in the morning.
- Get this letter out in today's mail.
- The mail is sorted by department.

Mail Room

✱

Make



Same Sign for:

Description: Strike the right "S" hand on top of the left "S" hand, palms inward. Twist the hands in opposite directions with each striking movement.

Hints/Origin: Constructing something:

Definition: (verb) to produce; to build

Sample Sentences:

- This company makes parts for computers.
- He makes coffee for the office.
- Try not to make typing mistakes.

On the Job, Around the House

✱

Man



Same Sign for: Male

Description: With open "5" hand, place thumb on the right side of the forehead. Bring thumb down to touch right side of chest.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) an adult male person

Sample Sentences:

- My father is a very tall man.
- The man is running to catch the bus.
- The hockey player is a big man.
- That man can help you with the computer.

Common Signs, People

*

Many



Same Sign for: Numerous, Lots, Plural

Description: Holding both "S" hands in front of chest, palms up, open rapidly several times.

Hints/Origin: All the fingers opening up denote a large number.

Definition: (adjective) (pronoun) a large number

Sample Sentences:

- I have worked here for many years.
- Many of us had the flu last winter.
- It takes many years for a tree to become full grown.
- It is not safe to have too many people in an elevator.

Size/Shape/Quantity

✱

Marry



Same Sign for:

Description: Both "C" hands right palm left, left palm right, come together, clasping at chest level.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to become husband and wife

Sample Sentences:

- Jeff asked Donna to marry him.
- He wants to marry her.
- After George and I marry, we plan to have three children.

Family Relationships, Police

✱

Match



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Bring the knuckles of the extended crooked index finger in an arc upward off the left open palm facing right. (2) With both hands in "Claw" shape, palms facing body, thumbs pointing up, bring hands together, interlocking fingers at knuckles.

Hints/Origin: (1) Mime striking a match. (2) As if matching fingers together.

Definition: (1) (noun) a piece of wood or cardboard with a tip that catches fire when you rub it against a rough surface (2) (verb) to be alike; to go well with

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- He lit the candle with a match.
- Don't burn yourself on the match.
- Make sure the match is out before you throw it away.

(2)

- Your shoes match your sweater.
- Your skills match our needs.
- This paint matches the wallpaper.

Directions/Reinforcement, Safety/Survival

✱

Mean



Same Sign for: Meaning

Description: With the right "V" hand, touch index finger and middle finger to middle of left palm, facing right then facing left, twisting right wrist.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to show; to intend

Sample Sentences:

- What does the red light mean?
- More business means more profits.
- That sign means "Danger".
- The skeleton on the medicine bottle means "Poison".

Directions/Reinforcement



Measure



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the thumbs of both "Y" hands, palms down, together several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to find out the size or amount; to find out how long, how wide, how deep, how large, or how much a thing is

Sample Sentences:

- Please measure this room for carpeting.
- The conference room measures 30' by 40'.
- Measure the desk to see if it is too big.

On the Job, Size/Shape/Quantity

✱

Meat



Same Sign for: Steak

Description: Using "G" fingers of right hand, grip the fleshy part of the left hand, palm in, between thumb and index finger.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) part of an animal that you eat

Sample Sentences:

- I like my meat cooked well-done.
- This meat is very tender.
- I eat fish more often than meat.

Supermarket



Medicine



Same Sign for: Drug, Prescription

Description: Make small circles with tip of middle finger on left open palm.

Hints/Origin: Indicates mixing medicine.

Definition: something you eat, drink, or rub on that makes you well

Sample Sentences:

- This medicine will help your headache.
- The doctor told me to take this medicine twice a day.
- The medicine is in the medicine cabinet.

Health/Hospital

✱

Meet



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring both extended index fingers, pointing up and palms facing toward each other until they meet in front of the chest.

Hints/Origin: Two people walking up to each other.

Definition: (verb) to come together; to get to know someone; to be introduced

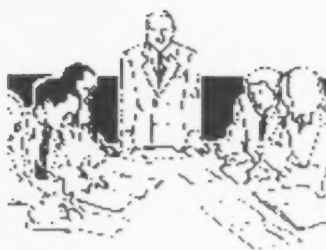
Sample Sentences:

- I'll meet you for lunch.
- I'm busy now, but we can meet next week.
- Have you met the new plant manager?

Common Signs

✱

Meeting



Same Sign for: Meet

Description: Put both hands in the flat "O" shape, thumbs together, nails touching. Wiggle fingers back and forth tapping fingertips to one another.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a gathering of people for a purpose; coming together of a group of people

Sample Sentences:

- Will you attend the meeting?
- There were only five people at the meeting.
- There will be a meeting after work.
- We discussed new rules at the meeting.

Common Signs, On the Job

✱

Mexico



Same Sign for: Mexican

Description: Rub the fingertips of the right upturned "M" hand down the right side of the mouth and lower cheek.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a North American country south of the United States

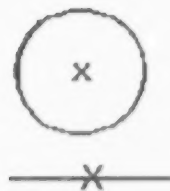
Sample Sentences:

- There are guards at the border of Mexico and the United States.
- Chili is my favorite Mexican food.
- He wore a big Mexican hat.

People

✱

Middle



Same Sign for: Center, Central

Description: With left hand open in front of chest, palm up, fingers pointing out, and with right hand open, palm down, above left hand, circle right hand over left hand. Then touch left palm with fingertips of right bent hand.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) in the center: (noun) the center

Sample Sentences:

- I am in the middle of the parking lot.
- There is a blank page in the middle of the book.
- The middle of this picture is not clear.

Directions/Reinforcement, Size/Shape/Location

✱

Milk



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "S" shape in front of body, palm facing left, open and close hand in squeezing motion several times.

Hints/Origin: Mime milking a cow.

Definition: (noun) a white liquid made by female animals to feed their babies

Sample Sentences:

- May I please have coffee with milk.
- I will drink milk with dessert.
- Milk is good for you.

Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Monday



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the upturned "M" hand, palm facing body, in a small circle. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the day after Sunday; the first day of the usual work week

Sample Sentences:

- I work from Monday to Friday.
- On Monday, I was sore from playing tennis on Sunday.
- We have a long weekend, because Monday is a holiday.

Interview/Forms, Time/Schedule

*

Money



Same Sign for: Financial, Economic

Description: With right hand in "and" shape, palm up, and with left hand open, palm up, tap back of right hand on left palm several times.

Hints/Origin: Suggests putting money in palm of hand.

Definition: (noun) coins and paper bills

Sample Sentences:

- How much money do I need for the trip.?
- This store makes a lot of money.
- Count the money in the cash register.

Bank/Money, Size/Shape/Quantity, Supermarket



Month



Same Sign for: Monthly

Description: Bring the right extended index finger, pointing left, palm facing the body, down the back side of the left extended index finger, pointing up, palm right.

Hints/Origin: With the left hand representing the weeks of a month, the right hand shows the passage of time over them all.

Definition: (noun) a time period of about 4 weeks; one of twelve periods of time into which a year is divided

Sample Sentences:

- Easter is sometimes in the month of March and sometimes in the month of April.
- September, October, and November are Fall months.
- Income taxes are due next month.
- I am paid monthly, on the last day of every month.
- The office gets a monthly supply of paper and pens.
- The monthly business meeting is on the second Tuesday of every month.

Time/Schedule

✱

Mop



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "A" position, place right hand, palm toward body, closer to the body than the left hand, palm facing up. Push both hands forward a short distance with a double movement.

Definition: (noun) yarn, sponge, or cloth at the end of a stick, used for cleaning; (verb) to wash or wipe

Sample Sentences:

- I mopped my kitchen floor.
- Mop up the spilled milk.
- I use a dust mop to clean furniture.

Around the House

✕

More



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the fingertips of both flattened "O" hands together several times, palms facing body. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Similar in formation and concept to the sign for "add".

Definition: (adjective) greater in amount, degree, or number

Sample Sentences:

- After the sale, we will have more customers.
- We have more papers to file every day.
- More women have jobs today.
- I need more time to finish.
- She wants more ice cream.

Common Signs, On the Job

✱

Morning



Same Sign for:

Description: With the fingers of the open left hand in the crook of the extended right arm, bring the right hand upward toward face.

Hints/Origin: Shows the movement of the sun coming over the horizon in the morning.

Definition: (noun) the first part of the day, before noon

Sample Sentences:

- I have a job interview tomorrow morning.
- Have you read the morning paper?
- Many people go to work at 8:00 in the morning.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, Time/Schedule



Mother



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the thumb of the right "5" hand, palm left, on the right side of the chin.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a female parent

Sample Sentences:

- My mother has three children.
- My family celebrated when my mother got a raise.
- My mother drives to work with my father.

Family Relationships



Movie



Same Sign for: Film, Show

Description: With the heel of the right "5" hand, palm facing forward and fingers pointing up, on the index finger of the left open hand, palm toward body and fingers pointing right, twist the right hand back and forth from the wrist.

Hints/Origin: Represents the flickering of the picture on the screen.

Definition: (noun) a motion picture

Sample Sentences:

- We went to a movie Friday night.
- The movie was a captioned film.
- Eight movies are playing at the mall theater.

Adult Day Care

✱

Must



Same Sign for: Have to

Description: Bring the bent index finger downward once.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (helping verb) to have to do something

Sample Sentences:

- I must fill out an application to get a job.
- You must follow the rules for your safety.
- If you want to get paid, you must fill out a time sheet.

Interview/Forms, On the Job, Safety/Survival

✱

My



Same Sign for: Mine

Description: Place the palm of the open hand on chest.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) belonging to me

Sample Sentences:

- My new job is great.
- There is a mistake in my paycheck.
- My boss told me I must work late today.
- The car next to yours is mine.
- You do your job. I'll do mine.
- His desk is in front of mine.

Pronouns

* My Name Is



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the open palm on the center of the chest. Then, tap the right "H" fingers, palm left, on top of the left "H" fingers, palm right, twice. "My" plus "name"; it is not necessary to sign "is". Follow by fingerspelling your name.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (phrase) what you say before you tell your name

Sample Sentences:

- My name is Mr. Purcell, and I will be your supervisor.
- Hello, my name is David.
- Here's my card. My name is Ms. Robins.

Common Phrases

✱

Name



Same Sign for: Title

Description: Tap the right "H" fingers across the left "H" fingers, palms facing each other.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a special word which you use to call someone or something; what you call a person or thing

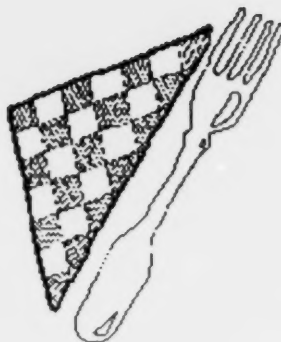
Sample Sentences:

- My name is Tony Smith.
- Her first name is Ann.
- I have forgotten the name of the store.
- The name of the newsletter is "Silent World"
- Always get your client's name and address.

Common Signs, Health/Hospital, Interview/Forms, On the Job

✳

Napkin



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the fingertips of the flat open hand, palm in and fingertips facing upward, across the lips from right to left.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a piece of paper or cloth for wiping your mouth when you eat

Sample Sentences:

- The waitress forgot to give me a napkin.
- Put the fork next to the napkin.
- My napkin fell off my lap.

Containers/Utensils, Fast Food/Restaurants

✱

Need



Same Sign for: Must, Necessary, Ought to, Should

Description: Move the "X" index finger up and down in a quick double motion. Repeat motion.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to be necessary

Sample Sentences:

- I need to apply for benefits.
- I need your permission to go home.
- We need your social security number.
- You need water to stay healthy.

Interview/Forms, On the Job, Safety/Survival

✱

Nephew



Same Sign for:

Description: Twist the wrist of the "N" hands, palm facing the right temple, outward twice.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign in male position

Definiton: (noun) the son of one's brother or sister

Sample Sentences:

- My nephew is my brother's son.
- When my nephew was born, my brother gave out cigars at work.
- My nephew liiks like my brother.

Family Relationships

* Nervous



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with both "5" hands in front of body, palms facing. Quickly shake hands.

Hints/Origin: Hands shake as if from nervousness.

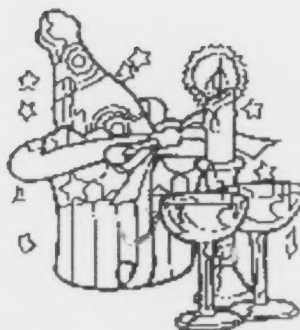
Definition: (adjective) jumpy; restless; excitable

Sample Sentences:

- He was nervous about seeing the doctor.
- Getting a shot makes me nervous.
- I was nervous before I took the test.

Health/Hospital, Interview/Forms

* New Year //



Same Sign for:

Description: Sign "New" plus "Year".

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) January 1, the start of a new year - the night before New Year's Day, people go to parties where everyone says, "Happy New Year" at midnight

Sample Sentences:

- At 12:00 midnight, everyone yelled "Happy New Year".
- We wore hats and blew whistles for the New Year.
- I went to a New Year's Eve party.

Holidays

* Newspaper



Same Sign for: Printing, Publishing

Description: Move index finger and thumb of right "G" hand together as though picking up imaginary type and placing it on left open palm.

Hints/Origin: Mime old style type setting.

Definition: (noun) The paper that reports the news of the day

Sample Sentences:

- I read about the President's trip in the newspaper.
- The morning newspaper is delivered to my office.
- Check in the newspaper to see what time the movie begins.

Adult Day Care, Mail Room

* Next week



Same Sign for: One week from now

Description: With the right extended index finger pointing forward, palm down, move the bent right knuckles across the upturned left palm from heel to fingertips and then forward in an arc.

Hints/Origin: "Week" plus a future motion.

Definition: (adverb phrase) a period of seven days after today

Sample Sentences:

- Christmas is next week. There are 7 more days to shop.
- This week, I'm packing for my vacation next week.
- There a 7 days until I retire next week.

Time/Schedule

✱

Nice



Same Sign for: Clean, Pure

Description: Slide the open right hand, palm down, across the upturned left hand, moving from the heel to the fingertips.

Hints/Origin: Wiping something clean.

Definition: (adjective) pleasant; fine; kind; friendly; pretty

Sample Sentences:

- Did you have a nice time at the party?
- She is a very nice person.
- The weather was not nice today.
- It's nice to work near a window.
- Always be nice to a customer.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Common Signs

✱

Niece



Same Sign for:

Description: Twist the wrist of the "N" hand, palm facing the right cheek, outward twice.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign in the female position.

Definition: (noun) the daughter of one's brother or sister

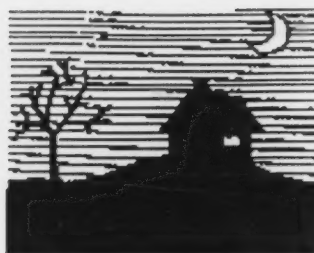
Sample Sentences:

- My niece and I both look like my mother.
- My older brother's daughter is my only niece.
- My niece said that I am her favorite aunt.

Family Relationships

✱

Night



Same Sign for: Evening

Description: Tap the wrist of the bent open right hand, palm down, on the top of the wrist of the downturned left arm, extended to the right.

Hints/Origin: Shows the sun setting below the horizon.

Definition: (noun) the part of the day when it is dark; the time between sunset and sunrise

Sample Sentences:

- Did you stay at home last night?
- It snowed last night.
- I don't go out alone late at night.
- The stars shine at night.
- I'll be working on the night shift.
- Do you want to work during the day or at night?

Common Signs

✱

No



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the index and middle fingers down to meet the thumb in two quick movements.

Hints/Origin: "N" and "O" pronounced quickly.

Definition: (adjective) not any; not at all: (adverb) the opposite of yes

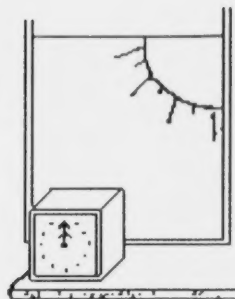
Sample Sentences:

- I asked for the day off, but my boss said, "No".
- I received no answer to my letter.
- He asked for a date and she said, "No".

Common Signs

✱

Noon



Same Sign for:

Description: Put the elbow of the right arm, hand extended straight, on the back of the left hand, arm extended right in front of the body.

Hints/Origin: Shows the position of the sun in the horizon at 12:00 noon.

Definition: (noun) 12 o'clock in the middle of the day

Sample Sentences:

- She eats her lunch at noon.
- We have an important meeting at noon.
- I start work at noon.

Common Signs

✱

Not



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the thumbtip of the "A" hand from under the chin, outward, palm left.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb) a word that says "no"

Sample Sentences:

- It is not a funny book.
- I will not let my dog run loose.
- Do not forget your lunch.
- Do not be late for your interview.
- I am not going to work today.
- I did not get a raise.

Common Signs

* Not Yet



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the downward extended right arm, elbow out and palm back, back past the waist a few times.

Hints/Origin: Shows a past motion.

Definition: (adverb phrase) after the usual time; after the expected time

Sample Sentences:

- He has not yet come to work.
- The report has not yet been typed.
- I have not yet been paid.

Common Phrases

✱

Now



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring down both bent open hands or both open "Y" hands in front of body, palms and fingers facing up.

Hints/Origin: In "present" position.

Definition: (adverb) at the present time; immediately

Sample Sentences:

- It needs to get done now. (Tommorrow is too late.)
- The FAX is great for information you need right now.
- I can't see you now. (I'll see you later.)

On the Job

✱

Number



126

4

70

59

10.5

Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "and" shape, palms facing, fingertips touching, twist hands in opposite directions.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a word that tells how many

Sample Sentences:

- We sell tickets with lottery numbers.
- There is a large number of customers in the store.
- Two is a small number; ninety-nine is a larger one.
- Computers can add a lot of numbers very quickly.

Computers, Mail Room, Size/Shape/Quantity, Supermarket

✱

Nurse



Same Sign for:

Description: Place extended fingers of right "N" hand on wrist of left hand.

Hints/Origin: Mime taking pulse.

Definition: (noun) a person who helps a doctor take care of patients

Sample Sentences:

- The nurse took my pulse and weighed me before I saw the doctor.
- When I was in the hospital, the nurse took my temperature.
- The school nurse sent the little boy home.

Adult Day Care, Health/Hospital

*

Office



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both hands in "O" shape, palms facing chest, left hand close to body, right hand slightly forward. Twist both hands outward until palms are facing each other.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a room or building where business takes place

Sample Sentences:

- There are ten employees working in this office.
- Please close the door to my office.
- The president's office is on the 8th floor.

Interview/Forms, Mail Room, On the Job

* Oh I See



Same Sign for:

Description: Gently shake the "Y" hand up and down, palm down. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: This is often used as an indication of agreement with what the other person is saying.

Definition: (phrase) words showing that you understand something

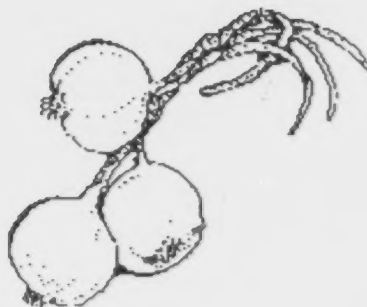
Sample Sentences:

- Oh, I see how to do that.
- Oh, I see how the copier works.
- Oh, I see what you want.

Common Phrases



Onion



Same Sign for:

Description: With the knuckles of the slightly curved index finger near the corner of the right eye, palm out, twist downward twice.

Hints/Origin: Wiping a tear from the eye caused by peeling an onion.

Definition: (noun) a vegetable that grows underground and that has a strong smell and taste

Sample Sentences:

- Do not put onions on my hamburger.
- Cutting the onion made him cry.
- I like mustard and onions on my hot dog.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

* Operation



Same Sign for: Surgery

Description: Drag the thumbtip of the right "A" hand, palm down, downward a few inches to just below the right side of the ribcage. Can be done on various parts of the body according to the specific operation.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) surgery

Sample Sentences:

- After the operation, the patient woke up.
- I had an operation to remove my tonsils.
- The operation is over and the patient is fine.

Health/Hospital

✱

Orange



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the "C" hand under the chin and change into a "S" hand by repeatedly opening and closing the hand. NOTE: Use this sign for both the color and the fruit.

Hints/Origin: Squeezing oranges

Definition: (adjective) the color of pumpkins, carrots, and oranges; the color between yellow and red: (noun) a sweet juicy fruit that is orange.

Sample Sentences:

- We carved the orange pumpkin for Halloween.
- A marigold is an orange flower.
- An orange is a fruit which is orange colored.

Colors, Fruits/Vegetables
 , Supermarket

✱

Order



Same Sign for: Command

Description: Bring the extended index finger, palm left, forward and downward from the chin in a deliberate movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to ask or to request that something be done: (noun) a command; a request; your choice of food in a restaurant

Sample Sentences:

- What will you order for lunch?
- He ordered a new desk for my office.
- Order more supplies before you run out.
- The waitress took his order for dinner.
- My boss ordered me to come on time.

On the Job, Supermarket

✱

Our



Same Sign for: Ours

Description: With the thumb side of the open right hand, palm left, at the right shoulder, make a semicircle ending with the little finger side at the left shoulder.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) belonging to us

Sample Sentences:

- Our health insurance plan includes eye care.
- These safety rules are for our benefit.
- Our favorite team is the Pittsburgh Pirates.
- Our company is growing bigger every day.

Pronouns

✱

Out



Same Sign for: Outside, Outdoors

Description: With the fingers pointing down, draw the right open hand up and out of the left "C" hand, palm right. Repeat motion for "Outside".

Hints/Origin: Taking something out of another thing.

Definition: (adverb) not in

Sample Sentences:

- Take the paper out of the box.
- Take the clothes out of the dryer.
- The boss is out of the office.
- I took the dog outside for a walk.
- It is snowing outside.

Adult Day Care

✱

Owe



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch left palm, facing up, twice with right "1" finger.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to need to pay for something

Sample Sentences:

- You owe me \$2.00 for the cookies.
- I owe you fifty cents.
- That is not enough money. You still owe me \$1.00.

Bank/Money, Supermarket

✱

Pack



Same Sign for:

Description: Move both closed "O" hands up and down, alternately.

Hints/Origin: As if putting things in a box or suitcase -- packing.

Definition: (verb) to put in a box, bundle, etc.

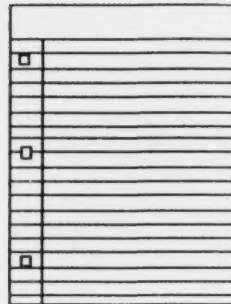
Sample Sentences:

- He packed his office things in a big box when he retired.
- The computer is packed carefully, so it won't break.
- Have that packed for mailing.
- Pack your bags for the trip to Florida.

Mail Room, Supermarket



Paper



Same Sign for: Page

Description: Sweep the heel of the right "5" hand, palm down, back against the heel of the upturned left "5" hand with an upward motion.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a thin sheet of material on which you write; a material used for writing, printing, drawing, wrapping, covering walls, books, newspapers, etc.

Sample Sentences:

- She asked the teacher for another sheet of paper.
- Do not waste paper in this office.
- The copier is out of paper.
- Use paper bags for the groceries.
- The computer printer uses 14" x 12" paper.

Common Signs, Computers, Supermarket

✱

Parents



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the thumb of the right "5" hand, palm facing the left, first on the chin then on the forehead.

Hints/Origin: Combination of signs for father and mother.

Definition: (noun) a mother and father

Sample Sentences:

- My teacher met my parents at the school open house.
- My parents pick up my brother after work.
- My mother's parents are my grandparents.

Family Relationships

✱

Past



Same Sign for: Ago, Long time ago

Description: Move right hand palm facing back, fingertips pointing up, over right shoulder.

Hints/Origin: Past movement.

Definition: (noun) The time before the present; before; something that happened before now

Sample Sentences:

- I had a job in the past, but I am not working now.
- In the past, we always vacationed in Florida.
- We used typewriters in the past, but now we use computers.
- He worked hard in the past, and he earned a lot of money.

Common Signs

✱

Patient



Same Sign for: (1) Patience, Endure

Description: (1) Bring the thumbnail of the "A" hand, palm left, down from the center of lips to the chin. (2) With the middle fingertip of the "P" hand, palm toward body, draw a small cross on the side of the upper left arm.

Hints/Origin: (2) Initialized sign formed like hospital.

Definition: (1) (adjective) able to wait: (2) (noun) a sick person who is being treated by a doctor

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- He was patient waiting for his boss.
- I must be patient to wait in line at the bank.
- I was patient and waited a long time for this raise.

(2)

- The doctor's office is filled with patients.
- The patient in the hospital called the nurse.
- The patient went home from the hospital.

Feelings, Health/Hospital

✱

Pay



Same Sign for:

Description: Place right hand in "one" shape, palm down. Keep left hand open, palm up, fingers pointing out. Place right index fingertip on heel of left palm and slide it out accross left fingers, ending with right index fingers pointing out.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to buy with money

Sample Sentences:

- Did you pay for that?
- How much did you pay for that pop?
- I need to pay for this coffee.

Bank/Money, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

* Pay Attention



Same Sign for:

Description: Move both open hands outward from the sides of the face, palms facing outward, keeping the fingers pointing upward.

Hints/Origin: Wearing blinders to keep the eyes directed to the task at hand.

Definition: (verb) to look at and think carefully

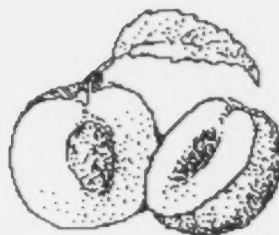
Sample Sentences:

- Pay attention to your supervisor.
- If you pay attention, the job will be easy.
- Pay attention to the safety rules when you use equipment.

On the Job

✱

Peach



Same Sign for:

Description: With the palm facing right cheek, lightly stroke the spread fingertips down the cheek, ending with the fingertips touching the thumbtip. Repeat.

Hints/Origin: Feeling peach fuzz.

Definition: (noun) a round fruit with a velvety skin and a seed like a stone

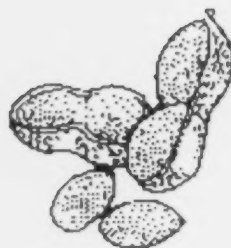
Sample Sentences:

- She baked a peach pie.
- She ate peaches with cottage cheese for lunch.
- We have a peach tree in our back yard.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Peanut



Same Sign for: Nut

Description: Flick the thumb of the "A" hand off the tips of the front teeth.

Hints/Origin: Cracking nuts with the teeth.

Definition: (noun) a nut that grows underground in a pod

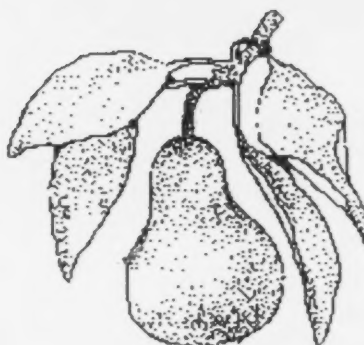
Sample Sentences:

- Peanut butter is made from peanuts.
- I ate peanuts and pop at the baseball game.
- We fed peanuts to the elephant.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Pear



Same Sign for:

Description: Hold the left hand, fingertips touching the thumb and pointing right, palm toward body. Place the right fingers, pointing left, over the left fingers and pull right ending with right fingertips touching the thumb. Repeat.

Hints/Origin: Shows the shape of a pear.

Definition: (noun) a fruit that is rounded at one end and smaller toward the stem end

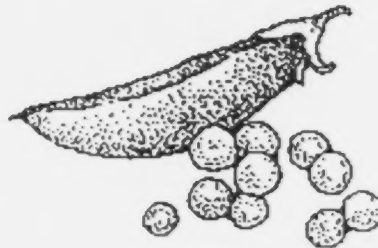
Sample Sentences:

- The diet lunch is pear halves and cottage cheese.
- This pear is yellow -- yours is green.
- Do you like pears?

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Peas



Same Sign for:

Description: Use the fingertips of the "X" to make short outward strokes along the extended left index finger. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Pointing to individual peas in a pod.

Definition: (noun) round green seeds that grow in a pod and are eaten

Sample Sentences:

- The peas rolled off my fork.
- He had chicken, peas, and mashed potatoes.
- I like green pea soup.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✳

Pencil



Same Sign for:

Description: Mime holding a pencil in one hand, with index finger and thumb. Touch to lips (as if wetting pencil tip). Mime writing on palm of opposite hand.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a thin tool usually made of wood, with lead in the center, used for writing or drawing

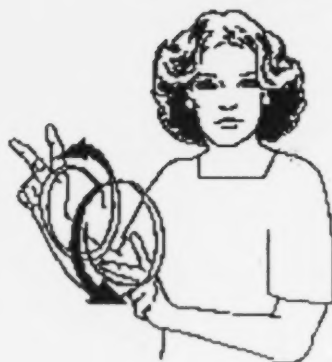
Sample Sentences:

- May I sharpen my pencil?
- The teacher gave each child a new pencil.
- I wrote the letter with a pencil.
- First, write the numbers in pencil, then in pen.

Common Signs

✱

People



Same Sign for:

Description: Using both "P" hands, circle outward with alternating movement. Note: Circles may move inward instead.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) persons; men, women, and/or children

Sample Sentences:

- There are thirty people in this office.
- We need to hire more people to clean up our parks.
- I ride the bus with the same people every day.

People

✱

Person



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring both "P" hands downward along the body in a parallel movement from shoulder to waist level.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign following contour of body.

Definition: (noun) a human

Sample Sentences:

- The supervisor is a fair person.
- He is the person who hired me.
- The person behind the counter can help you.

People

✱

Picture



Same Sign for: Photograph

Description: Bring the right "C" hand, palm facing out, from the right temple down ending with the thumb side of the right "C" hand against the palm of the open left hand, palm facing right and fingers pointing up.

Hints/Origin: Taking an image and recording it on paper.

Definition: (noun) a drawing, painting, or photograph

Sample Sentences:

- My picture is on my driver's license.
- This camera takes good pictures.
- I hung a picture of flowers in the living room.

Around the House, Interview/Forms

✱

Pie



Same Sign for:

Description: Slide the little finger side of the open right hand, palm left, across the upturned left hand. Repeat at slightly different angle on the left palm.

Hints/Origin: Slicing pie into pieces

Definition: (noun) fruit, cream, etc. baked in a crust

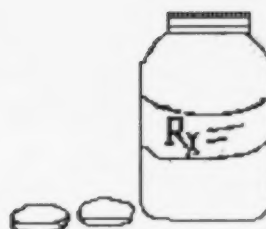
Sample Sentences:

- I like cherry pie.
- I eat ice cream with apple pie.
- We had pumpkin pie for dessert.

Desserts/Snacks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✱

Pill



Same Sign for: Take a Pill

Description: Place right index finger against thumb in front of mouth, and open quickly as hand moves toward open mouth.

Hints/Origin: Mime taking pills.

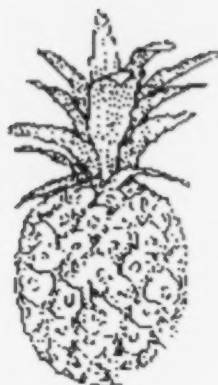
Definition: (noun) a small round or pellet-shaped bit of medicine that must be swallowed

Sample Sentences:

- The doctor said I should take a pill after each meal for my cold.
- I got these pills at the drug store.
- I take a vitamin pill with a glass of orange juice every day.

Health/Hospital

* Pineapple



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the right "5" hand, angled forward to the left, downward past the fingertips of the left "B" hand, angled forward to the right.

Hints/Origin: Slicing a pineapple

Definition: (noun) a sweet tropical fruit with a rough skin

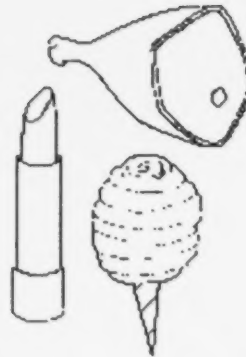
Same Sign for:

- Most pineapples come from Hawaii.
- There is pineapple in my fruit salad.
- I like pineapple juice.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Pink



Same Sign for:

Description: Stroke downward on the lips with the middle finger of "p" hand a few times, palm toward face.

Hints/Origin: Initialized "P" sign in the same position as for "red".

Definition: (adjective) the color of cotton candy and ham; a color that is very light red; a mixture of red and white

Sample Sentences:

- Strawberry ice cream is pink.
- The nurse puts pink diapers on baby girls and blue ones on boys.
- Some grapefruits are pink inside.

Colors

✱

Pitcher



Same Sign for:

Description: Starting with the "A" hand, thumb side up, tip the thumb side of hand downward toward the left. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Mime pouring with a pitcher.

Definition: (noun) a container for holding and pouring liquids

Sample Sentences:

- I'll make a pitcher of ice tea.
- The waitress poured water from a pitcher.
- The pitcher is full of juice.

Containers/Utensils

✱

Plan



Same Sign for: Arrange, Schedule

Description: With both hands open in front of body, palms facing and fingers pointing out, move hands to right.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to think out in advance

Sample Sentences:

- I plan to be done by Friday.
- I must plan next year's vacation now.
- Let's plan a good time for our office meeting.

Mail Room, On the Job, Supermarket

✧

Plant



Same Sign for: Spring, Grow

Description: Smoothly bring the right hand, palm up with the fingertips touching the thumb, up through the left "C" hand, palm facing right, changing the right hand into a "5" handshape as it moves up. Repeat.

Hints/Origin: Mime a plant growing from a seed through the earth to a seedling

Defintion: (noun) anything that grows out of the ground like grass of flowers

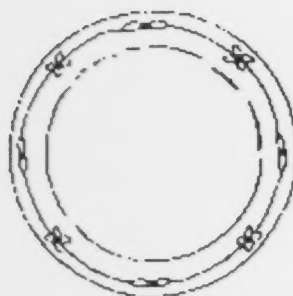
Sample Sentences:

- I water my plants once a week.
- There are tomato plants in my garden.
- The plant on the window sill is a violet.

Adult Day Care

✱

Plate



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in curved "L" shape, palms facing, hold apart to show size of plate.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a dish for food

Sample Sentences:

- I ordered a plate of spaghetti.
- The plate fell and broke.
- Put the plates in the dishwasher.

Containers/Utensils

*

Please



Same Sign for: Enjoy

Description: Rub the palm of the open hand, fingers touching, in a circular motion over the heart.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (interjection) a polite word; a word used to ask or request something

Sample Sentences:

- Please shut the door.
- Please feed the cat.
- May I please have a cup of coffee?
- Would you please mail these letters?
- Please see me after work.

Common Signs

* Pneumonia



Same Sign for:

Description: Rock the middle fingertips of both "P" hands up and down on the chest, palms toward body.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign showing difficulty breathing from pneumonia.

Definition: (noun) an illness of the lungs

Sample Sentences:

- His chest x-ray showed pneumonia.
- I stayed in bed for a week with pneumonia.
- She coughed a lot from pneumonia.

Health/Hospital



Poison



Same Sign for: Skeleton

Description: With arms crossed in front of chest at the wrists, both hands in crooked "V" shape, palms toward body, tap wrists together several times.

Hints/Origin: Forms the crossbones from the skull and crossbones symbol for poison.

Definition: (noun) something that can kill you if you eat or drink it; anything dangerous or deadly

Sample Sentences:

- Most chemicals are poison. Do not get them in your eyes.
- Working around poisons is dangerous.
- Keep the phone number of the poison center on the wall in case of emergency.

Health/Hospital, Safety/Survival

*

Police



Same Sign for: Cop

Description: With right hand in "C" shape, palm facing left, put thumb and index finger edge of right "C" hand against body just below left shoulder.

Hints/Origin: Intitialized sign for "cop".

Definition: (noun) a member of the police force

Sample Sentences:

- I called the police when I was robbed.
- The police caught the burglar.
- The traffic cop gave me a ticket.

Health/Hospital, Police

✱

Pop



Same Sign for: Soda

Description: Start with right hand in "5" shape, palm down, and left hand in "S" shape, palm in. Put right middle finger into left "S" hand. Immediately raise right hand up and then slap top of left "S" with right palm.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a soft drink

Sample Sentences:

- This pop machine does not have ginger ale.
- Coke is my favorite pop.
- Do you want orange or cherry pop?

Drinks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

✳

Potato



Same Sign for:

Description: Twice, tap the fingertips of the crooked "V" hand to the back of the curved, open left hand, palm down. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Testing a potato with a fork to see if it is cooked.

Definition: (noun) a vegetable grown under the ground

Sample Sentences:

- French fries are potato strips fried in oil.
- Do you want gravy on your mashed potatoes?
- I ate a baked potato with my dinner.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Practice



Same Sign for: Train, Rehearse

Description: Rub the knuckles of the downturned right "A" hand on the extended index finger of the left hand, palm facing body in a double motion.

Hints/Origin: Repetitive action.

Definition: (verb) to do something again and again to become good at it

Sample Sentences:

- I practice typing at home.
- We will practice during job training.
- You need to practice for your driver's test.
- He will practice every day for the tennis match.

Directions/Reinforcement, On the Job

*

Prefer



Same Sign for: Rather

Description: Place the fingertips of the right closed "5" hand on the right side of chest. Draw the hand to the right and up, ending with an "A" handshape near the shoulder, palm toward body.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to like better; to choose

Sample Sentences:

- I prefer filing to typing.
- Which grocery store do you prefer?
- I prefer to work at night.

Feelings, Interview/Forms

* Pregnant



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the right "5" hand on the abdomen, then move hand forward several inches.

Hints/Origin: Shows the changing shape of the abdomen during pregnancy.

Definition: (adjective) having a baby developing in the uterus

Sample Sentences:

- The pregnant woman took child birth classes.
- Pregnant women need a lot of rest.
- The test showed she was pregnant.

Health/Hospital

*

Prepare



Same Sign for:

Description: With both flat hands, palms facing, fingers pointing forward, bounce twice moving from left to right.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to make ready; to get ready

Sample Sentences:

- You should always prepare for a job interview.
- She prepared dinner for her family.
- She was not prepared for the test.

Common Signs, On the Job

*

Price



Same Sign for: Cost

Description: Draw right "X" knuckle, palm facing body, knuckle pointing left, down the palm of the flat left hand, fingers pointing forward, palm left.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the cost to the buyer

Sample Sentences:

- The price of clothes has gone up this year.
- What is the price of that car.
- I didn't buy the table because the price was too high.

On the Job, Size/Shape/Quantity, Supermarket

✱

Prison



Same Sign for: Jail

Description: Place the palm side of the right "four" hand crosswise on the back of the left "four" hand, both palms facing body.

Hints/Origin: Represents prison bars.

Definition: (noun) a jail

Sample Sentences:

- The murderer is in prison.
- The prison guard watches the criminals.
- If he is guilty, he will go to prison.

Police

✱

Problem



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with both hands in bent "U" shape, palms in, knuckles of index and middle fingers facing and touching. Twist wrists to rub knuckles against each other.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a hard question; something that causes trouble

Sample Sentences:

- Do you have a problem with working at night?
- I had a problem starting my car.
- I'm having a problem with my computer.

Bank/Money, Health/Hospital, Interview/Forms

✧

Program



Same Sign for: Programmer, Programming

Description: Stroke the tip of the "P" hand up the left palm and down the back of it.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) software

Sample Sentences:

- This program helps me in school.
- This is a sign language program.
- He writes computer programs.

Computers

*

Project



Same Sign for:

Description: Tip of "P" hand strokes up the left palm and changes to a little finger making a "j" on the back of the left hand.

Hints/Origin: Usage: a programming project, project control, the project manager.

Definition: (noun) a task

Sample Sentences:

- The project will be finished tomorrow.
- We all are working on this project.
- Four programmers worked on the computer project.

Computers, On the Job

✱

Proud



Same Sign for: Pride

Description: Drag the thumbtip of the "A" hand up the center of the chest, thumb pointing down and palm facing out.

Hints/Origin: Shows feelings rising from within.

Definition: (adjective) thinking well of oneself

Sample Sentences:

- I felt proud that I won the race.
- The mother was proud of her son at graduation.
- I am proud to be an American.

Directions/Reinforcement

* Pumpkin



Same sign for: Melon

Description: Use the thumb to flick the right middle fingers onto the back of the left hand. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Thumping a melon to see if it is ripe.

Definition: (noun) a large orange fruit that grows on a vine

Sample Sentences:

- A Halloween pumpkin with a face is a jack-o-lantern.
- He ordered pumpkin pie for dessert.
- I visited a pumpkin farm before Halloween.

Fruits/Vegetables

✱

Punish



Same Sign for: Penalty

Description: Strike the extended right index finger, pointing left, downward on the elbow of the raised bent left arm.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to make someone pay for doing something wrong

Sample Sentences:

- He was punished for cheating.
- Criminals should be punished.
- My parents punished me for lying.

Police, Safety/Survival

✱

Purple



Same Sign for:

Description: Wave the "P" hand in front of chest by twisting the wrist in and out.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (adjective) the color of grapes and violets

Sample Sentences:

- Grape jelly is purple.
- I have a bouquet of purple violets on my desk.
- Some grapes are purple and some are green.

Colors

✱

Put



Same Sign for: Move

Description: With the thumbs and fingertips of both hands together, hands side by side in front of the body, palms facing down, move the hands in an arc forward and to the left.

Hints/Origin: Mime moving something from one place to another.

Definition: (verb) to place something; to move

Sample Sentences:

- Please put the receipts in this folder.
- He put the paper in the trash.
- Let's put the computer over here.

On the Job, Around the House

* Put Down



Same Sign for: Write down

Description: Touch the fingertips of the flat right "0" hand to the middle of the upturned left palm. Open the right hand and place palm flat on left palm.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to write on paper

Sample Sentences:

- Put down your name and address.
- Put down your social security number where it says "SS".
- He gave me a business card and put down his home phone number on it.

Interview/Forms

✱

Question



Same Sign for:

Description: Draw a question mark in the air while moving the hand forward. Can be directional toward intended respondent. Facial expression should correspond to the meaning.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a sentence that asks something

Sample Sentences:

- Do you have any questions?
- I have a question.
- He asked many good questions.

Directions/Reinforcement, Police, Questions

✱

Read



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the fingertips of the right "V" hand down, the palm of the left open hand, palms facing each other. Repeat movement two times.

Hints/Origin: The fingers represent the eyes moving down a page.

Definition: (verb) to look at and understand written words

Sample Sentences:

- I read the newspaper every day.
- Do you understand what you read?
- I read the newspaper before I go to work.
- I read about your promotion.
- Read the directions before you use that calculator.

Common Signs, Directions/Reinforcement, Mail Room

✱

Receive



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "5" shape, palms facing, fingers pointing out, draw hands toward body while closing both to "S" shape, ending with right hand on left hand.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to take something that is given

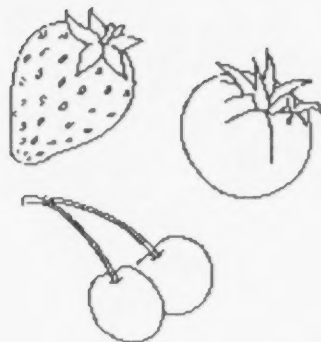
Sample Sentences:

- I received your job application in the mail.
- Let me know when you receive the bill.
- She received her full pay when she was sick.

Mail Room

✱

Red



Same Sign for:

Description: Stroke downward on the lips with the extended index finger a few times, palm toward face.

Hints/Origin:

The lips are red.

Definition: (adjective) the color of cherries, strawberries, and tomatoes

Sample Sentences:

- His face turned red when he blushed.
- The red candy tastes like cherries.
- The red light means "Stop".

Colors

*

Refuse



Same Sign for: Won't, Will not

Description: Quickly and deliberately, bring the thumbtip of the "A" hand backward over the right shoulder, palm left.

Hints/Origin: A natural sign for refusal

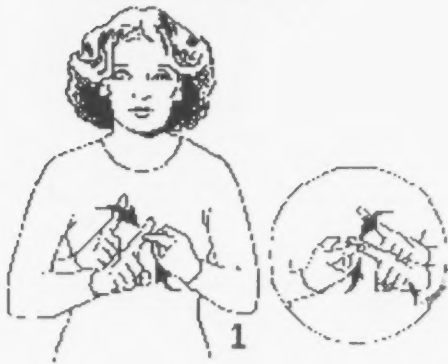
Definition: (verb) to deny; to reject; to say "No"

Same Sign for:

- She refused my invitation to dinner.
- We refuse to accept checks. You must have cash.
- He refused the job offer.

On the Job

* Relatives



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Touch middle of right "1" finger, palm down, to middle of left "1" finger, palm up. Switch hands and touch left middle of "1" finger to middle of right "1" finger.

(Note: Can also use "R" fingers.) (2) Hook the right index finger and thumb into the left index finger and thumb with other three fingers extended and apart. Move joined fingers from side to side in front of chest.

Definition: (noun) members of the same family (sisters, uncles, grandparents, etc.);

Sample Sentences:

- Our relatives eat Thanksgiving dinner with us.
- My relatives came to my wedding.
- All my relatives came to the family picnic.

Family Relationships, Police

* Remember



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the thumb of the right "A" hand from the right side of the forehead down to touch the thumbnail of the left hand held at waist level, palms facing each other.

Hints/Origin: Taking something from the head and looking at it.

Definition: (verb) to bring back into your mind

Sample Sentences:

- Remember to lock the door when you leave.
- Did you remember to pay your taxes?
- Remember to fill out a time sheet.
- I remember your name.

Directions/Reinforcement

✧

Report



Same Sign for:

Description: With both hands in "1" shape, palms out, right hand under lips, left hand slightly in front of right hand, move hands down, ending with index fingers pointing out.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a written or oral description of what happened: (verb) to write or tell about something

Sample Sentences:

- The workers report to the manager.
- The sales report tells what was sold.
- The report says he is a good worker.

Bank/Money, Computers, Supermarket

* Require



Same Sign for: Demand

Description: Strike the fingertips of the right "X" hand, palm facing left, against the open left palm, facing right. Bring both hands toward the chest.

Hints/Origin: Demanding that something be placed in your palm as required.

Definition: (verb) to need; to demand; must have

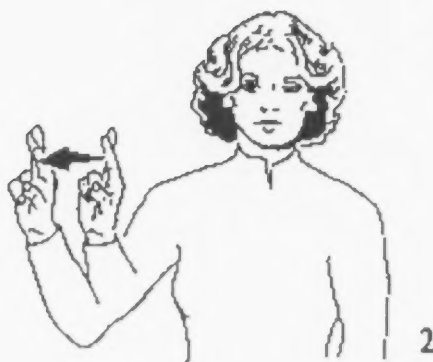
Sample Sentences:

- They require that you wear goggles for your safety.
- We require that you come to every meeting.
- A driver's license is required if you drive a car.

On the Job

✱

Right



Same Sign for: (1) Correct, Proper, Appropriate

Description: (1) With both extended index fingers pointing outward, strike the little finger edge of the right hand to the top of the index finger edge of the left hand. (2) Move the "R" hand, palm facing out, to the right with a deliberate motion.

Definition: (1) (adjective) correct; not wrong: (2) (adjective) (adverb) a direction that is opposite of left

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- Put the dishes in the right place.
- That's the right answer..
- This is the right way to turn off the computer.

(2)

- Turn right at the stop sign.
- I live in the first house on the right.
- Go right when you get to the traffic light.

Common Signs, Directions/Reinforcement, Supermarket

✧

Room



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both closed "5" hands in front of body, palms in, right fingers pointing left, left fingers pointing right. Place left hand in front of right hand. Then, move hands to sides, ending with palms facing each other and fingers pointing out.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) part of a building divided with walls

Sample Sentences:

- This room was the cafeteria, but now it is an office.
- You will share a room with three other secretaries.
- Our office has six rooms.

Around the House, Mail Room

✱

Sad



Same Sign for: Sorrowful, Sorrow

Description: Bring both loose "5" hands downward from the sides of the face, palms facing the body.

Hints/Origin: Hands show the downturned expression.

Definition: (adjective) not happy; full of sorrow

Sample Sentences:

- I am sad that you are quitting.
- All the workers were sad when the factory closed.
- You seem sad that your vacation is finished.

Feelings

✱

Salad



Same Sign for:

Description: Move upturned "claw" hands in a tossing motion, palms up and angled in. Repeat movement. Optional: Use upturned "V" hands to initialize for "vegetable".

Hints/Origin: Mime tossing a salad.

Definition: (noun) raw vegetables or fruit with dressing

Sample Sentences:

- I want French dressing on my salad.
- I ordered salad for lunch.
- Put tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, and celery in the salad.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Fruits/Vegetables

✱

Salt



Same Sign for:

Description: With the right "V" fingers crossed on top of the left "U" fingers, both palms down, alternately tap the index and middle fingers with an up and down motion.

Hints/Origin: Tapping salt off a salt knife.

Definition: (noun) a white powder we get from the earth and use in cooking

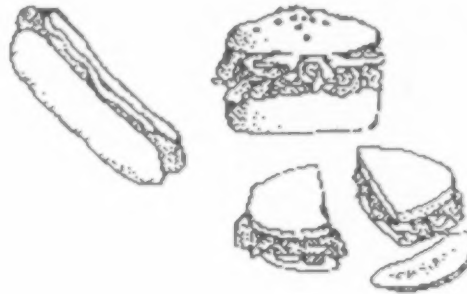
Sample Sentences:

- I need salt for my french fries.
- May I please have some salt and pepper.
- I never put salt on my food.

Fast Food/Restaurants



Sandwich



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the right flat hand in between the thumb and fingers of the left flat hand, both palms facing body, fingers toward face. Move both hands slightly back and forth toward mouth.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) two pieces of bread with food between them

Sample Sentences:

- I want a sandwich and pop please.
- This is a good tunafish sandwich.
- I like peanut butter sandwiches.

Fast Food/Restaurants

✱

Saturday



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "S" hand, palm facing body, in a small circle.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the day after Friday

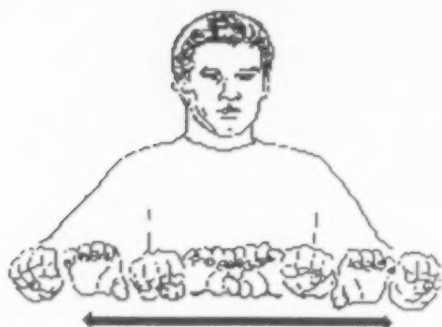
Sample Sentences:

- I watch college football Saturday afternoon.
- Saturday is the first day of the weekend.
- I was tired Sunday, because I was up late Saturday.

Time/Schedule

✱

Sausage



Same Sign for: Bologna

Description: Starting with "S" hands side by side, palms down, pull hands apart while opening and closing them.

Hints/Origin:

Initialized sign following the shape of links of sausage.

Definition: (noun) chopped meats with seasoning

Sample Sentences:

- I like sausage better than bacon.
- May I please have sausage and eggs.
- I ordered sausage with breakfast.

Fast Food/Restaurants

*

Save



Same Sign for: Preserve, Reserve

Description: Tap the right "V" fingers, palm facing body, on the back of the left "A" hand, palm facing body, knuckles pointing right.

Hints/Origin: to save the contents of the computer register; to save a computer copy for backup; the "save" area in a computer

Definition: (verb) to rescue; to store up; to take what is in computer memory and put it on a disk

Sample Sentences:

- The lifeguard saved the drowning boy.
- She saves her old Christmas cards.
- Always save what you type into a computer.
- I saved the program on disk.
- Saving a program is the same as backing up a program.

Common Signs, Computers

* Schedule



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both hands in "4" shape, right palm facing left, fingers pointing up; left palm facing right, fingers pointing forward. Draw right fingertips down left palm. Then, turn right hand over and draw the back of fingertips forward across the left palm.

Hints/Origin: As if drawing the lines (graph) of a schedule.

Definition: (noun) a list of events that are supposed to happen; a plan for daily or weekly activities

Sample Sentences:

- According to my schedule, I will be busy all day.
- I can fit the appointment into my schedule on Monday.
- I must check my schedule to see if I can go.

Time/Schedule

✱

Secret



Same Sign for: Private, Confidential

Description: Tap the thumbnail of the "A" hand against the lips with a double movement.

Hints/Origin: Sealing the lips.

Definition: (noun) something which is hidden or unknown: (adjective) known to very few people

Sample Sentences:

- We keep the money in a secret hiding place.
- The ingredients are a company secret.
- These records are secret. (No one must know.)

On the Job

✱

See



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "V" hand, palm toward face and fingers pointing up, from in front of the eyes outward in an arc.

Hints/Origin: The fingers represent the eyes looking at something.

Definition: (verb) to use your eyes to notice things; to notice or observe; to look at

Sample Sentences:

- Did you see the news last night?
- We can see the bus coming.
- Did you see the manager.
- I always see him at coffee break.
- I saw the new safety rules yesterday.

Common Signs

* See You Later



Same Sign for:

Description: Smoothly bring the "V" hand, finger pointing toward either eye and face toward the face, from the eyes downward, changing into a "1" hand with a flick of the wrist.

Hints/Origin: "See" plus a modified form of "later". "you" is not necessary.

Definition: (phrase) See you some time after the present

Sample Sentences:

- I'm busy now. See you later.
- I have a meeting in five minutes. See you later.
- Break is over. I'll see you later.

Common Phrases

✱

Sell



Same Sign for: Sales

Description: Place both hands in "and" shape in front of chest, palms in, fingers pointing down. Move hands up and out flicking wrists, ending with fingers pointing out.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to exchange something for money

Sample Sentences:

- The supermarket sells meat and vegetables.
- She sells insurance.
- The department store sells clothing and furniture.

Supermarket

✱

Send



Same Sign for: Mail

Description: Hold right "S" hand in front of body, palm forward. Move hand forward ending with an open hand, palm down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to make a person or thing go somewhere

Sample Sentences:

- I will send you the information.
- I was sent home from work.
- I send Christmas cards to my friends.

Interview/Forms, Mail Room

*

Shape



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with both hands in the "A" shape, palms forward, thumb tips touching. Simultaneously outline the shape of an hour glass with thumbs.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the form of something

Sample Sentences:

- The cookies were in the shape of a Christmas tree.
- These two squares are the same shape.
- The puzzle pieces are different shapes.

Shape/Size/Quantity

✱

Short



Same Sign for: Little, Small (height)

Description: Move the closed "5" hand, palm down, from below shoulder level downward a short distance.

Hints/Origin: Demonstrates a short height.

Definition: (adjective) not tall; not long

Sample Sentences:

- I am too short to put a star on top of the Christmas tree.
- If you are not at least 6 feet 3 inches tall, you are too short to play basketball.
- Mary is very short, but her brother is tall.

Shape/Size/Quantity

✱

Shot



Same Sign for: Injection

Description: Point the index finger of the right "1" hand to the upper left bent arm. Push the index finger into the forearm while lowering the thumb.

Hints/Origin: Mime giving yourself an injection.

Definition: (noun) an injection

Sample Sentences:

- I got a shot to prevent the flu.
- The dentist gave me a shot in the mouth.
- The shot in my arm didn't hurt.

Health/Hospital

✱

Show



Same Sign for: Demonstrate

Description: Touch the extended right index finger into the open left hand, palms facing each other. Move both hands forward and down in a short arc.

Hints/Origin: Pointing out something as an example.

Definition: (verb) to let someone see something; to point out something to someone; to put in sight

Sample Sentences:

- Please show the report to him.
- I will show slides at the meeting.
- Let me show you the cafeteria.

On the Job

✱

Sick



Same Sign for: Ill, Disease

Description: Touch the bent middle finger of the right "5" hand to the forehead; and, at the same time, touch the bent middle finger of the left "5" hand to the stomach, both palms facing in.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) ill; not well

Sample Sentences:

- Sick people need special care.
- If you eat too much candy, you will be sick.
- I didn't work because I was sick.
- I felt very sick, so I went to the doctor.

Adult Day Care, Common Signs, Feelings Health/Hospital, Interview/Forms, Safety/Survival

✱

Sign



Same Sign for: Sign Language

Description: Start with both hands in "1" shape, palms facing each other. Circle hands alternately toward body.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a language that uses manual symbols to represent ideas and concepts (includes manual signs and fingerspelling)

Sample Sentences:

- Many deaf people use sign language to communicate.
- Judy is taking classes in sign language because her baby is deaf.
- My boss is learning to sign so he can talk to me.
- Do you know how to sign?
- Please sign that word to me.

Common Signs

* Signature



Same Sign for:

Description: Hit the palm side of the index and middle finger of the right "H" hand on the heel of the left open hand. Note: Sign is the same as "application" but only hit palm once.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a person's name handwritten by himself or herself

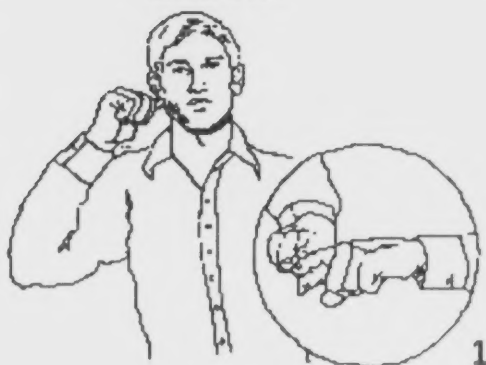
Sample Sentences:

- You must put your signature on a check.
- Your signature must be on your driver's license.
- Fill out the application and put your signature on the bottom.

Interview/Forms

✱

Sister



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Sign "Female", moving inside of thumb of right "A" hand down right cheek from ear to chin. Then sign "Same", placing both index fingers side by side, pointing forward. (2) Place thumb of right "L" hand on left side of chin, then move the hand down to strike back side of left "L" hand, waist high and facing right.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a girl or woman who has the same parents as another person

Sample Sentences:

- Joe has three younger sisters and one brother.
- My sister looks just like me.
- Mary and her sister both live in Pittsburgh.

Family Relationships

✱

Skill



Same Sign for: Ability, Competent

Description: Grasp the little finger edge of the open left hand, palm right, with the right hand. Pull the right hand down and outward in an arc.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the ability to do something well

Sample Sentences:

- She has excellent secretarial skills.
- What are your skills?
- It takes skill to fix a car.

Interview/Forms

✱

Sleep



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the loose "5" hand downward, palm in front of face and fingers pointing upward, bringing the thumb and fingertips together.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to rest the body and mind

Sample Sentences:

- We sleep at night.
- I could not sleep last night.
- Joe likes to sleep eight hours a night.

Health/Hospital



Slow



Same Sign for: Slowly

Description: Drag the fingers of the right open hand back toward the body over the left open hand, both palms down and fingers forward.

Hints/Origin: Demonstrates a slow moving motion.

Definition: (adjective) not fast

Sample Sentences:

- The mail is very slow, compared to a FAX machine.
- His work is slow, but it is accurate.
- Slow down or you will get hurt.

Interview/Forms, On the Job

*

Small



Same Sign for:

Description: With both open hands held palms facing each other, fingers forward at either side of body, move hands a short distance toward each other stopping abruptly.

Hints/Origin: Demonstrates a small size

Definition: (adjective) not big

Sample Sentences:

- He has a small car. It holds two people.
- I keep a small calculator in my pocket.
- This restaurant is too small for all these people.

Shape/Size/Quantity

✱

Smell



Same Sign for: Odor

Description: Circle (up and down) open hand, palm toward face under nose.

Hints/Origin: As if smelling something in hand.

Definition: (noun) odor

Sample Sentences:

- The funny smell warned us about the fire.
- The chemicals have a bad smell.
- I love the smell of your perfume.

Safety/Survival

✱

Smoke



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Move the right curved "5" fingertips, pointing down at the upturned left "5" fingertips, palms facing each other, in alternating circles.
 (2) Move the extended "U" fingertips from the lips, palm toward face, outward twisting the wrist, ending with the palm facing out. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: (1) Smoke billowing up from a fire.
 (2) Mime holding and smoking a cigarette.

Definition: (1) (noun) white, gray, or black gas which is given off by something burning: (2) (verb) to use cigarettes or cigars

Sample Sentences:

(1)

- There is no cigarette smoke in the office, since we put up the NO SMOKING sign.
- Black smoke filled the air near the steel mill.
- The fire set off the smoke detector

(2)

- If you smoke, you may get sick.
- Pregnant women should not smoke.
- You cannot smoke on airplanes.

Health/Hospital, Safety/Survival

✱

Son



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the "B" hand smoothly down from a saluting position on the forehead to the crook of the bent left arm, ending with palm up.

Hints/Origin: Rocking a male child.

Definition: (noun) the male child of a parent

Sample Sentences:

- My son and daughter both work downtown.
- My supervisor's son works here with his father.
- My son is an accountant like his father.

Family Relationships

✱

Sorry



Same Sign for: Apologize

Description: Rub the "A" hand, palm facing in, over the heart in a circular motion repeatedly.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) feeling pity, regret, or sympathy; sad

Sample Sentences:

- Sorry to hear you've been sick.
- I am sorry we missed your party.
- I am sorry I cannot hire you.

Common Signs

✧

Spain



Same Sign for: Spanish

Description: Touch fingertips of each "X" hand to respective shoulders. Bring "X" hands forward and interlock index fingers in front of body at chest level.

Hints/Origin: Represents the shawl traditionally worn by Spanish women.

Definition: (noun) a country in Europe

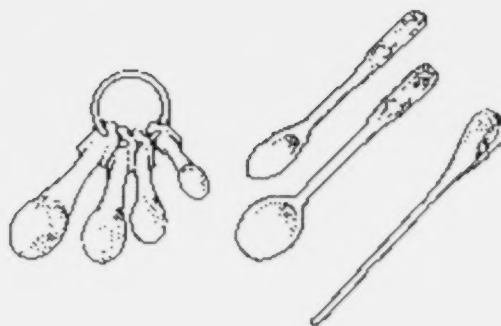
Sample Sentences:

- There are bull fights in Spain.
- Spain is a country in southwest Europe.
- Portugal is next to Spain.

People

✧

Spoon



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "H" shape, palm up, and left hand in front of chest, palm up, fingers pointing out, move tips of right "H" fingers across left palm in scooping motion up to mouth and repeat.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a small bowl at the end of a handle used to eat or stir food

Sample Sentences:

- He poured the medicine into a spoon.
- You need a soup spoon to eat soup.
- I need a spoon to stir my coffee.

Containers/Utensils

*

Start



Same Sign for: Begin, Initiate

Description: Twist the right extended index finger, palm facing body, between the index and middle finger of the left "5" hand, palm facing right.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to begin

Sample Sentences:

- Please start to read your book.
- I start my new job in two weeks.
- Start by reading the directions.
- I want to start the training session on time.

Common Signs, On the Job, Interview/Forms

✱

Steal



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the right "V" hand, fingers pointing left and palm down, from the bent left elbow toward the left wrist pulling up the fingers into a "claw" right hand.

Hints/Origin: Mime taking something in a stealthy way

Definition: (verb) to take someone else's property

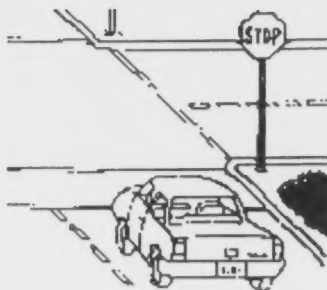
Sample Sentences:

- If you steal at work, you will be fired.
- The police caught the man who stole the camera.
- The boys tried to steal my car, but the alarm stopped them.

Police, Safety/Survival

*

Stop



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the little finger side of the right open hand, palm facing left, down into the upturned left palm.

Hints/Origin: A natural gesture for stopping something.

Definition: (verb) to keep from moving, acting, doing, being, or working; to put an end to

Sample Sentences:

- The bus stopped quickly.
- Please stop the car.
- Stop talking about her.
- He stopped the machine from overheating.
- I start work at nine and stop at five.
- She stopped working because she had a headache.

Common Signs, Computers, On the Job, Safety/Survival

* Strawberry



Same Sign for:

Description: Put closed tips of thumb and index finger of right "9" hand in front of mouth. Then, give a sudden pull away from the mouth.

Hints/Origin: Mimes pulling stem out of the berry which is in the mouth.

Definition: (noun) a small red fruit that is covered with seeds

Sample Sentences:

- I like strawberries with whipped cream.
- Strawberry ice cream is pink.
- I ate cheese cake with strawberries.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Subtract



$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ - 5 \\ \hline 6 \end{array}$$

$$4 - 3 = 1$$

Same Sign for:

Description: With the left flat hand, palm facing body, fingers pointing right, bring the right "claw" hand down across the left palm, ending with right hand in "A" shape slightly below the left hand.

Hints/Origin: As if grabbing something out of left hand.

Definition: (verb) to take away

Sample Sentences:

- Subtract your checks from the total.
- Subtract what you spent to find out how much money is left.
- My bank statement subtracts each check from the total.
- Subtract \$3.00 from my bill.

Bank/Money, Size/Shape/Quantity

✱

Sugar



Same Sign for: Sweet

Description: With right hand open, palm in, fingers up, brush chin with fingertips several times, ending with hand bent.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) sweet white or brown crystals used to make food or drinks sweet

Sample Sentences:

- I put sugar in my coffee.
- If you use too much sugar, it will be too sweet.
- I like sugar on my cereal.

Desserts/Snacks, Fast Food/Restaurants, Supermarket

* Summarize



Same Sign for: Condense

Description: With both loose "5" hands apart, palm facing each other and fingers forward, bring the hands together closing into "S" handshapes and ending with the right hand on top of the left.

Hints/Origin: Bringing information together in a summary.

Definition: (verb) to express briefly

Sample Sentences:

- Summarize the book in fifty words.
- He summarized our duties at the meeting.
- Will you summarize the problem?
- You need to summarize your experience on the application.

Directions/Reinforcement

* Sunday



Same Sign for:

Description: Bounce both open hands, palms away from body, forward and slightly down. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the day after Saturday

Sample Sentences:

- I never work on Sunday.
- The waitress works every Sunday.
- Sunday is the day I relax.

Time/Schedule

* Supervise



Same Sign for:

Description: With the right "K" hand, palm left, crossed on top of left "K" hand, palm right, move the hands together in a horizontal circle.

Hints/Origin: The fingers represent the eyes looking in every direction to supervise.

Definition: (verb) to be in charge of; to manage

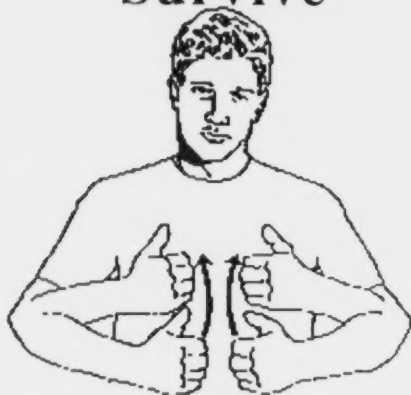
Sample Sentences:

- The teacher supervises the study hall.
- The manager supervises the store.
- The secretary supervises the office.

Interview/Forms

✱

Survive



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring both "A" hands with thumbs extended upward, palms toward the body, upward from the waist to the chest.

Hints/Origin: Similar form to the sign for live.

Definition: (verb) to exist longer

Sample Sentences:

- Fire drills can help you survive a fire.
- The crew and passengers survived the plane crash.
- The doctor hoped his patient would survive.

Safety/Survival

✧

Sweep



Same Sign for: Broom

Description: Brush the little finger side of the right open hand, palm facing left, across the upturned left palm, from the fingers toward the heel of the hand. Repeat movement twice.

Hints/Origin: The right hand is sweeping away dirt.

Definition: (verb) to use a brush or broom to clean the floor

Sample Sentences:

- I sweep the crumbs from the kitchen floor.
- In the summer, I sweep the porch.
- The man swept up a broken glass at the supermarket.

Around the House

✱

Table



Same Sign for: Desk

Description: Bring the right forearm and flat hand, palm down, onto the top of the left arm. Hold left hand parallel under right arm.

Hints/Origin: Indicates a top of the table or desk.

Definition: (noun) a piece of furniture with legs and a flat top

Sample Sentences:

- Put the dishes on the dining room table.
- The lamp is on the table.
- I ate breakfast at the kitchen table.

Around the House

✱

Talk



Same Sign for: Speak

Description: Tap the index finger of the "4" hand at the mouth, palm facing left and the fingers pointing up, several times.

Hints/Origin: Shows a lot of words coming out of mouth.

Definition: (verb) to use words; to speak

Sample Sentences:

- I would like to talk to the manager.
- I must talk to the owner.
- Never talk about personal problems on a job interview.

Common Signs

* Talk With



Same Sign for: Converse, Conversation

Description: Move the extended index fingers, palms facing each other and fingers pointing up, straight forward and back from either corner of the mouth with an alternating movement of the entire forearm.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to speak with someone; to converse

Sample Sentences:

- I must talk with the doctor about the operation.
- Joe needs to talk with a friend.
- The boss would like to talk with you after the meeting.
- I must talk with my supervisor about a raise.
- The interviewer talked with me for one hour.

Common Signs

✱

Tall



Same Sign for:

Description: Move closed "5" hand, palm down from forehead level upward a short distance.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) not short; high

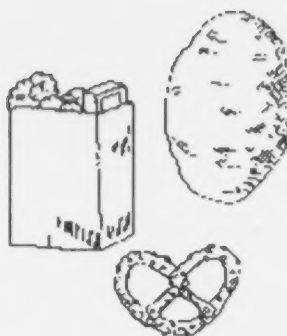
Sample Sentences:

- A giraffe needs a long neck to eat leaves from tall trees.
- I wear high heels to make me look tall.
- The little girl is very tall for 5 years old.

Shape/Size/Quantity

✱

Tan



Same Sign for:

Description: Stroke the index finger of the right "T" hand down the cheek, palm facing left.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign formed like brown.

Definition: (adjective) the color of paper bags, potatoes, and pretzels; a color that is very light brown: (noun) the color of some people's skin after being in the sun for a while

Sample Sentences:

- Paper bags are usually tan.
- Your skin is tan from the sun.
- Cream makes brown coffee turn tan.
- You got a nice tan in Florida.

Colors

✱

Tea



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with right hand in "F" shape, palm down, and left hand in "O" shape, fingers pointing right. Put tips of right "F" fingers into left "O" and repeat.

Hints/Origin: Mime dipping a tea bag up and down in a cup.

Definition: (noun) a drink made from hot water and dried leaves

Sample Sentences:

- I have tea bags and hot water in my office.
- Most people drink coffee in the morning, but I drink tea.
- There is tea in the cafeteria.

Drinks, Fast food/Restaurants, Supermarket

* Telephone



Same Sign for: Telephone (noun)

Description: With right hand in "Y" shape, put thumb near ear and little finger near mouth.

Hints/Origin: Mimes making telephone call, with hand representing receiver.

Definition: (verb) to make a phone call

Sample Sentences:

- I telephoned my parents from the police station.
- If he telephones, take a message.
- My friend telephones me daily.

Around the House, Interview/Forms, On the Job, Police

* Terminal



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with both "T" hands, palms facing out and thumbs side by side. Move hands straight apart in opposite directions and then straight down to waist level.

Hints/Origin: Sign represents outlining a computer terminal.

Definition: (noun) a computer workstation

Sample Sentences:

- I have a computer terminal at my desk.
- All the computer terminals stopped working when the lights went out.
- Get the information at your terminal.

Computers

✱

Test



Same Sign for: Exam

Description: Wiggle the index fingers of both "X" hands, palms forward, as hands move straight down in a parallel movement. Show that a test involves numerous questions.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a quiz; an examination

Sample Sentences:

- I failed a math test.
- You must pass a driver's test to get a license.
- The woman took a typing test.

Interview/Forms

* Thank You



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the fingertips of the open hand, palm facing inward, down and forward from the mouth.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (phrase) a polite phrase to tell someone that you are pleased or grateful for something he gave you; words that say you are happy with something that someone did for you

Sample Sentences:

- Say, "Thank you" when someone gives you a gift.
- Thank you for the beautiful flowers.
- Thank you for helping me paint the kitchen.
- Always say, "Thank you" to a customer.

Adult Day Care, Common Phrases

* Thanksgiving



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch fingertips of both flat open hands to mouth, palms facing body. Move hands forward once, pause and forward again, ending with palms up.

Definition: (noun) the fourth Thursday of November. The day we eat turkey and pumpkin pie and express our thanks for everything good in our lives.

Sample Sentences:

- We eat turkey and pumpkin pie on Thanksgiving.
- My family eats Thanksgiving turkey at Grandma's.
- I watched the Thanksgiving Day Parade on T.V.

Holidays

*

Their



Same Sign for: Theirs

Description: Starting with the open hand facing forward, swing it slightly to the right.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) belonging to them

Sample Sentences:

- They will be paid extra for their hard work.
- Their computers are newer than ours.
- The secretaries lock their desks after work.

Pronouns

✱

They



Same Sign for: Them

Description: Move the index finger from left to right pointing forward slightly to the right.

Hints/Origin: Points to people who are "they" or "them".

Definition: (pronoun) referring to people or things

Sample Sentences:

- They finished the project a day early.
- They need that information now.
- They can help you meet your quota.
- Give the extra candy to them.
- We need to help them with the new machines.
- I saw them at the movie last night.

Pronouns

✱

Think



Same Sign for: Thoughts

Description: Touch right temple with tip of right index finger. (For intense thinking or concentrating make counterclockwise circle with index finger to indicate action in the mind.)

Hints/Origin: Points to where thinking takes place.

Definition: (verb) to have ideas; to use the mind; to believe

Sample Sentences:

- Think about the question before you answer.
- Why do you think he is upset.
- I would like to think before I write the letter.
- I think that's a good idea.
- Think about your job benefits.

Common Signs

* Thursday



Same Sign for:

Description: The right "H" hand makes a small clockwise circle.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the day after Wednesday

Sample Sentences:

- Thanksgiving is the third Thursday of November.
- The store will be closed Wednesday because there is a big sale on Thursday.
- By Thursday, I'm looking forward to the weekend.

Time/Schedule

✱

Ticket



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with right hand in bent "V" shape and left hand open, palm in, fingers pointing up. Grasp little finger edge of left palm between right bent "V" fingers. Then, move right "V" fingers in and out on edge of left palm twice.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) an order to appear in court for breaking a traffic law; a piece of paper or cardboard used to get into a movie, a ball game, a bus, or airplane

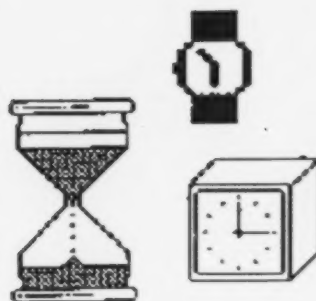
Sample Sentences:

- He got a ticket for speeding.
- I got a parking ticket.
- We got three tickets to the football game.
- Airplane tickets to California are very expensive

Police

✱

Time



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the curved extended index finger to back of the left wrist.

Hints/Origin: Pointing to the location of a watch.

Definition: (noun) a part of the past, present, or future. We measure time in minutes, hours, days, years, etc.

Sample Sentences:

- What time is your interview?
- It's time to eat lunch.
- Leave enough time to catch the bus.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

✱

Tired



Same Sign for:

Description: With the fingertips of both bent hands on the chest, allow the hands to drop down and rest the little finger side of the hands against the chest.

Hints/Origin: The energy seems to drop.

Definition: (adjective) feeling sleepy; feeling you need rest

Sample Sentences:

- I am tired when I go home from work.
- All the sales clerks were tired after the big sale.
- I need eight hours of sleep or I am tired at work.

Feelings

✱

Toast



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the fingertips of the crooked "V" right hand to the back of the left hand. Turn the left hand over, facing up, and touch the same fingertips to the palm.

Hints/Origin: Holding bread with a fork to toast both sides.

Definition: (noun) bread browned by heat

Sample Sentences:

- I'll have jelly on my toast.
- I want toast with my eggs.
- I like coffee and toast for breakfast.

Fast Food/Restaurants

✱

Today



Same Sign for: Now

Description: Bring both "Y" hands down in front of body, palms facing up. Repeat.

Hints/Origin: In present position.

Definition: (adverb) (noun) this day; the present time; now

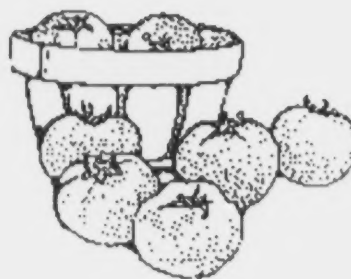
Sample Sentences:

- Today is Friday.
- I don't have to work today.
- She has a dentist appointment today.
- Today is my first day on the job.
- I'll finish your typing today.

Adult Day Care, Common Signs, Time/Schedule

*

Tomato



Same Sign for:

Description: Place the sideways left "S" hand, palm right, in front of body. Move the right "1" hand from the mouth down touching the index finger as it passes. NOTE: The left hand could have all fingertips touching the thumb pointing right.

Hints/Origin: Slicing a tomato

Definition: (noun) a round red vegetable often used in salads

Sample Sentences:

- He put lettuce and tomato on his chicken sandwich.
- Ketchup is made from tomatoes.
- I'll have a bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwich.

Fast Food/Restaurants, Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

* Tomorrow



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the thumbtip of the "A" hand forward in an upward arc from the right side of the cheek until thumb is pointing forward.

Hints/Origin: Future motion.

Definition: (noun) (adverb) the day after today

Sample Sentences:

- Tomorrow is Christmas.
- Will you have lunch with me tomorrow?
- I will finish my work tomorrow.
- Tomorrow is payday.
- I have an interview tomorrow.

Common Signs, Time/Schedule

✱

Total



$$\begin{array}{r} 46 \\ 7 \\ + 24 \\ \hline 77 \end{array} \quad 1+1=2$$

Same Sign for:

Description: Place left hand in "and" shape in front of chest, palm in, fingers pointing right. Place right hand in curved "5" shape below left hand, palm down, fingers pointing out. Move right hand up while closing the "and" shape, ending with hands touching.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to add

Same Sign for:

- You must total the checks you wrote.
- Total these numbers to see how much you spent.
- The bank statement will total your withdrawals.
- The total for my grocery bill was \$65.31

Bank/Money, Size/Shape/Quantity

✱

Towel



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "1" position, move the index finger from left to right along chin, ending in "x" position.

Hints/Origin: Drying chin with a towel.

Definition: (noun) a piece of thick cloth or paper that dries things

Sample Sentences:

- Dry the dishes with a kitchen towel.
- I dried my hair with a towel.
- After swimming, I dried myself with a towel.

Around the House

✱

Try



Same Sign for: Attempt, Effort

Description: Hold both "S" hands, palms facing each other, in front of chest. Push them forward with some display of effort. May use "T" hands, initializing "try".

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to attempt to do something; to test to see if something works

Sample Sentences:

- I will try to be there on time.
- She tried to run the marathon.
- He tried the key in the lock, but it didn't fit.
- Try the sample spot remover before you buy it.

Directions/Reinforcement

* Tuesday



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "T" hand, palm facing body in small circle. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the day after Monday

Sample Sentences:

- I was tired Wednesday, because I went to school Tuesday night.
- I have meetings for two days in a row, Monday and Tuesday.
- Tuesday night I have an exercise class.

Time/Schedule

✱

Twins



Same Sign for:

Description: With palm facing left, touch right "T" hand on the right side of the chin and then on the left side.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) two children born at the same time

Sample Sentences:

- The twins always fool us, because they look alike.
- My twin brother is five minutes older than I.
- Jack and Jody are twins, and today is their birthday.

People

✱

Type



Same Sign for: Typewriter

Description: Hold hands as if poised over typewriter. Move down and mime typing.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to use a typewriter or word processor

Sample Sentences:

- How fast can you type?
- I typed three letters this morning.
- I can type a perfect paper on my word processor.

Computers, Interview/Forms

✱

Uncle



Same Sign for:

Description: With "U" hand, make a small circular movement near the right temple.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign in the male position.

Definition: (noun) the brother of one's father or mother

Sample Sentences:

- My mother's brother is my favorite uncle.
- When his sister had a baby, Joe became an uncle.
- My father and my uncle look just like their father.

Family Relationships

* Understand



Same Sign for:

Description: Start with the "S" hand near the right side of the forehead, palm toward face. Flick the index finger up and move hand slightly forward at the same time.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to get the meaning of something

Sample Sentences:

- He understands the directions.
- I understand sign language.
- Algebra is difficult to understand.
- We understand the work rules now.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms

✱

Until



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the right extended finger, palm left, in an arc to the left index fingertip which is extended forward, palm facing body.

Hints/Origin: Shows movement of time

Definition: (preposition) up to the time of

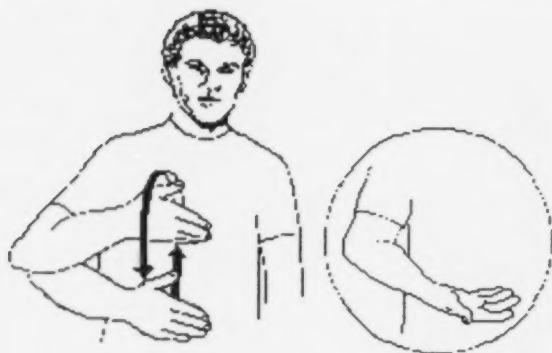
Sample Sentences:

- We work from 8:00 A.M. until our coffee break.
- I worked until late last night.
- There are three weeks until my vacation.

Time/Schedule

✱

Upset



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the palm of the open hand upward on the stomach, turning the wrist up and outward. Lower the hand with the palm facing up.

Hints/Origin: Shows the stomach turning over.

Definition: (adjective) sick; worried

Sample Sentences:

- Coke sometimes helps an upset stomach.
- What's wrong. You look upset.
- I am upset because my daughter is sick.

Health/Hospital

* Vacuum Cleaner



Same Sign for: Vacuum

Description: Place the right hand bent at the wrist, fingers pointing down and palm toward body, above the flat open left hand, palm up. Shake the right hand as it moves back and forth repeatedly.

Hints/Origin: Represents the action of a vacuum cleaner moving accross a carpet.

Definition: (noun) an appliance that cleans carpets, floors, and curtains with suction

Sample Sentences:

- The vacuum cleaner cleaned the rug.
- Use the vacuum cleaner to clean wood floors.
- I used the vacuum cleaner to clean my curtains.

Around the House

* Valentine's Day



Same Sign for:

Description: With the index fingers of both hands, trace the shape of a heart on the chest. Then, sign "Day".

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) February 14; a day to say, "I love you."

Sample Sentences:

- My boyfriend gave me flowers on Valentine's Day.
- I gave a big red heart to my wife on Valentine's Day.
- Valentine's Day is for lovers.

Holidays

#

Vanilla



Same Sign for:

Description: Wiggle the "V" hand back and forth in front of the body. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign

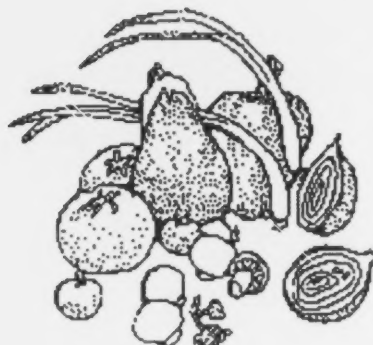
Definition: (noun) a flavoring made from the bean of a plant

Sample Sentences:

- I like vanilla ice cream with strawberry sauce.
- Vanilla pudding is white; chocolate pudding is brown.
- I like vanilla frosting on chocolate cake.
- The cookie recipe calls for 1 teaspoon of vanilla.

Desserts/Snacks

* Vegetables



Same Sign for:

Description: Fingerspell V-E-G.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) any plant used for food

Sample Sentences:

- Corn is my favorite vegetable.
- I have a vegetable garden with tomatoes, lettuce, beans, and cucumbers.
- Vegetable soup has carrots, tomatoes, potatoes, and peas in it.

Fruits/Vegetables, Supermarket

✱

Vomit



Same Sign for:

Description: With the right "5" hand under the chin, palm left, and left "5" hand held lower, palm right, move both hands forward in an arc simultaneously.

Hints/Origin: Shows the path vomit takes from the stomach and mouth.

Definition: (verb) to throw up: (noun) what you throw up

Sample Sentences:

- I vomited when I had the flu.
- The nurse cleaned up the vomit.
- Sip ginger ale if you think you might vomit.

Health/Hospital

✱

Wait



Same Sign for:

Description: Wiggle the fingers of the loose upturned "5" hands. The right hand is closer to the body than the left.

Hints/Origin: Drumming the fingers in boredom while waiting.

Definition: (verb) to stay until someone comes or something happens

Sample Sentences:

- Let's wait under the tree.
- Please wait for me after work.
- I had to wait for 30 minutes, because you were late.
- Don't make your boss wait.

Common Signs

✱

Wall



Same Sign for:

Description: Place both "B" hands side by side, palms facing outward. Separate smoothly outward.

Hints/Origin: Indicates the flat smooth surface of the wall

Definition: (noun) the side of a house or room

Sample Sentences:

- I hung a picture on the wall above the couch.
- The light switch is on the wall.
- I have wallpaper on the walls of my bedroom.

Around the House

✱

Want



Same Sign for: Desire

Description: Draw both upturned "claw" hands toward body at waist level.

Hints/Origin: Bringing something to yourself that you want.

Definition: (verb) to wish for; to desire

Sample Sentences:

- We want a new television.
- What do you want for Christmas?
- I want a job in this restaurant.
- I want to work outside.

Common Signs, On the Job

✱

Warning



Same Sign for: Caution

Description: Strike the back of the downward left hand with the fingers of the right open hand, palm down, two times.

Hints/Origin: Slapping someone to warn them.

Definition: (noun) telling about danger

Sample Sentences:

- I got a warning about being late for work.
- A red warning light flashes in case of fire.
- If you get another warning you will be fired.

Safety/Survival

✱

Wash



Same Sign for:

Description: Move both "A" hands, palms forward, in a circular motion.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to clean with water or another liquid

Sample Sentences:

- All employees must wash their hands before serving food.
- He washes dishes in a restaurant.
- I must wash these dirty clothes.

Around the House, Safety/Survival



Water



Same Sign for:

Description: With right hand in "W" shape, palm facing left, fingers pointing up, tap chin with side of index finger several times.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the liquid which makes rain, rivers, oceans, etc. and which you drink

Sample Sentences:

- The water fountain is next to the elevator.
- I drink a lot of water when it is hot.
- After it rained, water leaked in my house.

Adult Day Care, Fast Food/Restaurants, Drinks

* Watermelon



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the index finger of the right "W" hand, palm left, to the chin. Use the thumb to flick the right middle finger onto the back of the left hand.

Hints/Origin: Sign "water" plus "melon".

Definition: (noun) a large fruit with juicy red or pink pulp, a hard green rind, and black seeds

Sample Sentences:

- She made a melon salad with cantelope and watermelon.
- We ate watermelon for dessert at the picnic.
- This watermelon is very juicy.

Fruits/Vegetables

✱

We



Same Sign for: Us

Description: Bring the extended index finger pointing left in an arc from the right shoulder to the left shoulder, palm down.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) the persons speaking

Sample Sentences:

- We are going to a movie.
- Why are we leaving so early?
- We all work together.
- Give the papers to us.
- Please give us a ride.
- Tell us the news.

Pronouns

✱

Weather



Same Sign for:

Description: Quickly shake both "W" hands, palms facing, in and out.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) the kind of day it is outside

Sample Sentences:

- I like to walk outside in nice weather.
- The weather is cold and windy today.
- I love the hot weather in the summer.

Adult Day Care

* Wednesday



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "W" hand, palm facing body, in a small circle. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: Initialized sign.

Definition: (noun) the day after Thursday

Sample Sentences:

- Wednesday is the middle of the week.
- We finished Tuesday's work on Wednesday.
- I felt sick Tuesday night, and stayed home Wednesday.

Time/Schedule

✱

Weekly



Same Sign for:

Description: With the index finger extended, move the right hand across the left open hand, palms facing each other, from the heel to the fingertips several times. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin: The right finger traces several weeks across the calendar.

Definition: (adverb) (adjective) for a week; happening once a week

Sample Sentences:

- Her weekly salary is \$100.00.
- We have a weekly meeting every Tuesday.
- I eat lunch on Friday with my friend, weekly.

Interview/Forms, Supermarket, Time/Schedule

✱

What



Same Sign for:

Description: Hold left "5" hand forward, palm right. Bring right index finger down across the palm of the left hand.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) a word used to ask questions about persons or things

Sample Sentences:

- What is your name?
- What is your favorite color?
- What is that thing on the road?

Questions

* What For



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch the fingertip of the right "1" hand to right side of forehead, finger pointing left. Swing finger out until pointing straight. Repeat.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (phrase) What is the reason; I don't understand why

Sample Sentences:

- May I borrow \$5.00? What for?
- I got this letter yesterday. What is it for? (What for?)
- Why (what for) were you called to the boss's office?

Common Phrases, Questions

* What Time Is It



Same Sign for:

Description: Tap the curved extended index finger to the back of the wrist (the sign for time), and use a questioning expression on face and shrug shoulders.

Hints/Origin: This is a natural gesture for inquiring about time.

Definition: Question used to ask about the time of day.

Sample Sentences:

- I'm ready to take a break. What time is it?
- I need five more minutes. What time is it?
- I don't want to be late. What time is it?

Common Phrases, Questions

* What's Up



Same Sign for: What's happening

Description: Bring the bent middle fingers of both "5" hands upward and outward from the middle of the chest toward the shoulder.

Hints/Origin: Used when you approach someone and you want to know what he or she is doing

Definition: (phrase) What is going on? What is happening? a phrase used when you want to know what someone is doing

Sample Sentences:

- Hi Jim! What's up?
- I have not seen you in a month. What's up?
- Why are you sad? What's up?

Common Phrases, Questions

*

When



Same Sign for:

Description: With the right extended index finger above the left extended index finger (left palm facing right, right palm facing down), circle right index around left index finger one time landing on left index.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb) at what time?

Sample Sentences:

- When did you graduate?
- When are you going to work?
- When do you want to have lunch?

Interview/Forms, Questions

✱

Where



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Hold up index finger of right "1" hand, and shake the hand quickly from left to right. (2) Hold both open hands, palms up. Then, circle them outward, right hand clockwise and left hand counter clockwise.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb) a question word used to find the place of someone or something

Sample Sentences:

- Where is my new jacket?
- Where is our meeting today?
- I don't know where to catch the bus.

Common Signs, Questions

✱

Which



Same Sign for:

Description: Move both "A" hands, thumbs extended upward, up and down with alternating movements.

Hints/Origin: The alternating movement indicates a sense of doubt.

Definition: (determiner) a word that asks for specific information requiring a choice between a definite number of answers or things: (relative pronoun) a word that connects a noun to words which clarify or define it

Sample Sentences:

- Which desk is yours?
- I don't know which room is the right one.
- Do you know which college you are going to choose?

Interview/Forms, Questions



White



Same Sign for:

Description: Starting with the thumb and fingertips of the "5" hand on the chest, draw outward pulling the thumb and fingertips together.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) the color of snow and milk

Sample Sentences:

- I use bleach when I wash white clothes.
- Strawberry syrup makes white milk turn pink.
- The snow is white now. Afterwhile it will get dirty and gray.

Colors

* White Person



Same Sign for:

Description: Touch fingertips of right "5" hand to chest. Draw hand out ending with closed AND hand, open to "5" shape in front of face.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) a Caucasian; a person with light skin

Sample Sentences:

- The bank robber is a white person.
- The band has one white person and three black people.
- The cops asked, "Was he a white person or black person?"

People

✱

Who



1



2

Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Make a small circle around the mouth with the extended index finger, palm facing the chin. (2) With hand in "L" shape, touch to chin and wiggle index finger up and down.

Hints/Origin: (1) The finger traces the shape of the mouth when you say "who".

Definition: (pronoun) a word that asks questions about people

Sample Sentences:

- Who told you?
- Who is your friend?
- Who cut your hair?
- If you go now, who will finish your job?

Common Signs, Questions



Why



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring the fingertips of the bent hand from the forehead, palm toward face, down and away, changing into a "Y" hand as it moves.

Hints/Origin: Taking a thought from the brain and presenting it for investigation.

Definition: (adverb) for what reason; a word used to ask a question or to find the cause of

Sample Sentences:

- Why are you crying?
- Why are you laughing?
- Why isn't your work finished?
- Why is he late?

Common Signs, Questions

✱

Wife



Same Sign for:

Description: Drag the thumb of the bent right open hand along the right side of the chin, palm left, smoothly down to clasp the left hand held in front of body.

Hints/Origin: Woman plus marry; a woman who is married

Definition: (noun) a married woman

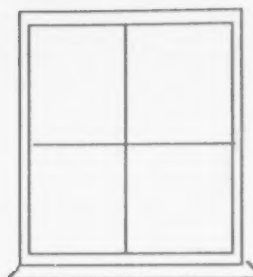
Sample Sentences:

- My wife takes our children to day care.
- I married my wife when I was 30 years old.
- My daughter looks like my wife.

Family Relationships

✱

Window



Same Sign for:

Description: Place left open hand in front of you pointing right. Place right open hand on top, pointing left. Raise right hand up a few inches.

Hints/Origin: Depicts a window being opened.

Definition: (noun) an opening in a wall that is covered with glass and lets light and air in a room.

Sample Sentences:

- Open the window if it gets too hot in your room.
- He bought new glass for the broken window.
- If I look out the kitchen window, I can see my neighbor's back door.

Around the House

✳

With



Same Sign for:

Description: Bring both "A" hands together, palms facing each other.

Hints/Origin: Something moves with another thing.

Definition: (preposition) a word showing people or things that are together

Sample Sentences:

- Do you want to come with me?
- Take your medicine with a glass of water.
- George always comes to work with John.
- I like French fries with my hamburger.
- I got a free car wash with my gas.

Common Signs

✕

Woman



Same Sign for: Female

Description: Form a right "5" hand, palm facing left. Drag tip of thumb down the cheek along jawline smoothly, ending with open hand, thumb on chest.

Hints/Origin: "Girl" plus "fine"; a woman with a fancy ruffle.

Definition: (noun) an adult female person

Sample Sentences:

- The woman wore a beautiful dress.
- When a girl grows up, she becomes a woman.
- That woman is a movie actress.
- The woman danced with the man.

Common Signs, People

✱

Work



Same Sign for: Employment

Description: Tap the heel of the right "S" hand, palm facing down, on the back of the downturned left "S" hand, with a double movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (noun) effort in doing or making something; something to do; occupation; employment

Sample Sentences:

- Barb has work to do.
- Where do you work?
- Gardening can be hard work.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, On the Job

✱

Write



Same Sign for:

Description: Mime holding a pencil in one hand and writing on the palm of the other hand.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (verb) to make letters or words with a pen or pencil; to make up stories, books, poems, articles, etc.

Sample Sentences:

- Please write your name on the top of the application.
- I like to write letters
- She would like to write a book.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, On the Job

*

Wrong



Same Sign for:

Description: Using "Y" hand, palm facing body, tap chin with middle bent fingers.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) bad; not true; not correct

Sample Sentences:

- Sally gave the wrong answer.
- Stealing is wrong.
- I made the wrong turn and got lost.
- That is the wrong key for this door.

Common Signs, Directions/Reinforcement, On the Job

✧

Yearly



Same Sign for: Annual

Description: Place the little finger side of the right "S" hand, palm left, on the thumb side of the left "S" hand, palm right. Brush the right hand forward changing to the "1" hand shape. Repeat movement.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adverb) once a year: (adjective) once a year

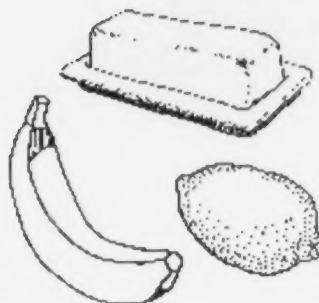
Sample Sentences:

- We take a yearly trip to the beach.
- I get a raise yearly.
- I figured my yearly income for taxes.

Time/Schedule

✧

Yellow



Same Sign for:

Description: Wiggle the "Y" hand back and forth at the wrist.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (adjective) the color of the butter, bananas, and lemons

Sample Sentences:

- A ripe lemon is yellow.
- The yoke of an egg is yellow.
- A buttercup is a yellow flower.

Colors

✱

Yes



Same Sign for:

Description: Move the "S" hand, palm facing forward, up and down repeatedly, bending at the wrist.

Hints/Origin: Nodding the head affirmatively.

Definition: (adverb) a word used to show agreement or permission; the opposite of no

Sample Sentences:

- Yes, I want this job.
- Yes, I will meet you tomorrow for dinner.
- Yes, we can stay here.
- Will you go? Yes, I will.
- Is this your desk? Yes, it is.

Common Signs

* Yesterday



Same Sign for:

Description: (1) Move the thumbtip of the "A" hand back from the right side of the chin to the center of the cheek. (2) Move the thumbtip of the "Y" hand back from the right side of the chin to the center of the cheek.

Hints/Origin: Past motion.

Definition: (adverb) (noun) the day before today

Sample Sentences:

- I just saw him yesterday.
- Yesterday was very cold.
- I missed work yesterday, because I was sick.
- Yesterday was Christmas Eve. (Today is Christmas.)

Common Signs

✱

You



Same Sign for:

Description:

- (1. **singular**) Point the index finger to the person being spoken to. If person is not present, point straight ahead.
- (2. **plural**) Point the index finger outward, moving it from left to right in front of the body.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) the person that we are speaking to

Sample Sentences:

(singular)

- Would you like a drink?
- You got the job. They did not.
- How are you?

(plural)

- All of you must sign in for work.
- You must check with each other before you take your breaks.
- You are all expected to be here at 9:30.

Common Signs, Interview/Forms, Pronouns

✱

Your



Same Sign for: Yours

Description:

- (1. **singular**) Face the open hand straight forward.
- (2. **plural**) Swing the open hand, palm outward, fingers together from left to right in front of body.

Hints/Origin:

Definition: (pronoun) belonging to you

Sample Sentences:

(singular)

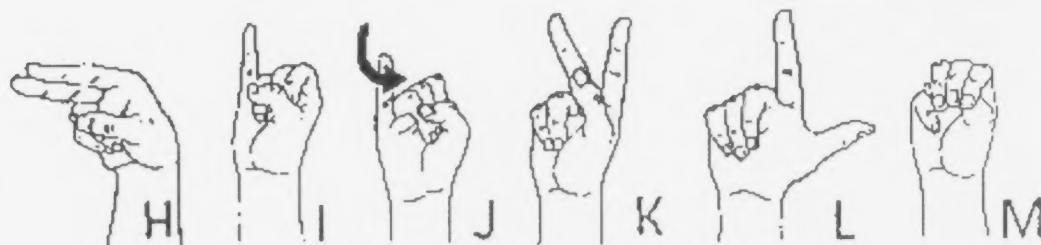
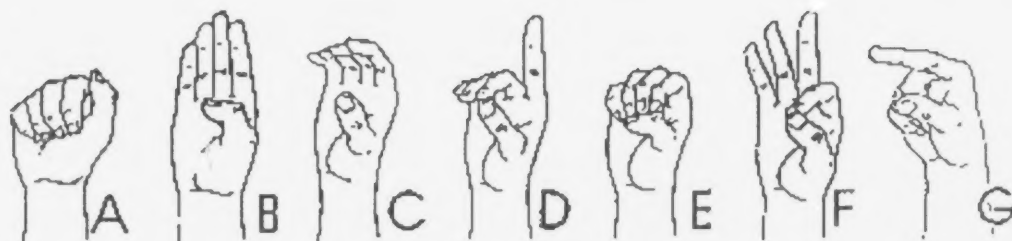
- It's your break time now.
- I took your suggestion and quit.
- I need your signature on this.
- You need your hat and your coat.

(plural)

- All of you will receive your checks tomorrow.
- Thank you all for your suggestions.
- You three men need your ID cards.
- You ladies must pay for your lunch now.

Pronouns

*Alphabet (A - M)



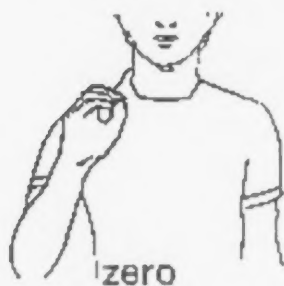
Alphabet (A - M)

* Alphabet (N - Z)

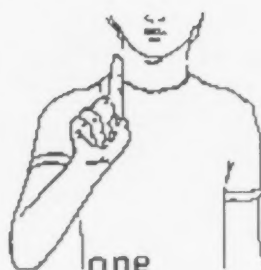


Alphabet (N - Z)

* Numbers (0-5)



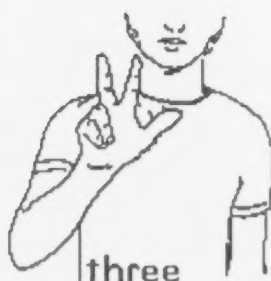
zero



one



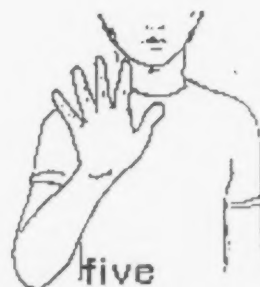
two



three



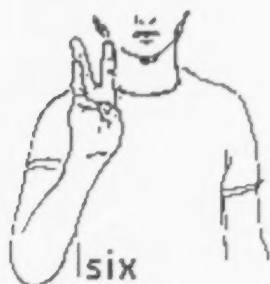
four



five

Numbers (0-5)

* Numbers (6-11)



Numbers (6-11)

* Numbers (12-17)



twelve



thirteen



fourteen



fifteen



sixteen



seventeen

Numbers (12-17)

* Numbers (18-23)



eighteen



nineteen



twenty



twenty-one



twenty-two



twenty-three

Numbers (18-23)

Numbers (24-60)



* Numbers (70 +)



Numbers (70 +)